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Inter-Arab Affairs

Committee To Condemn Rishon Leziyyon Shootings

JN2205102290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May (INA)—INA has learned that the Arab foreign ministers have formed a drafting committee charged with formulating the statement which they will issue condemning the heinous crime perpetrated by the Zionist entity's authorities against innocent Palestinian workers.

It is to be recalled that the relevant draft statement was proposed by Iraq and Palestine.

Delegates Come to Baghdad for Ministers' Meeting

Somali, Djibouti Ministers Arrive

JN2105201190 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Baghdad—Meetings of the Arab foreign ministers will begin tomorrow to prepare for convening the extraordinary Arab summit conference on 28 May. During the two-day meetings, the Arab foreign ministers will discuss the proposed agenda topics for the extraordinary Arab summit, which will deal with Arab national security and ways of protecting it from Zionist threats.

Somali Foreign Minister Ahmed Jama Abdulle and Djibouti Foreign Minister Moumin Bahdon arrived in Baghdad late last night to attend the meetings. Other foreign ministers will arrive in Baghdad later today.

Saudi, Algerian, Moroccan Ministers

JN2105200190 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpt] Arab foreign ministers have begun arriving in Baghdad to attend the Arab foreign ministers conference scheduled to begin tomorrow.

Saudi Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filai, and Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali arrived in Baghdad at noon today. [passage omitted]

Libya's Al-Talhi Arrives

JN2105185490 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's External Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Baghdad this afternoon leading a delegation to attend the Arab foreign ministers meeting scheduled to begin tomorrow in Baghdad.

Qatari Foreign Minister Arrives

JN2105201490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak 'Ali al-Khatir arrived in Baghdad today leading a delegation to attend the Arab foreign ministers preparatory meeting.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Arrives

JN2205092290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May (INA)—Sudanese Foreign Minister 'Ali Ahmad Sahlul arrived in Baghdad today at the head of a delegation to attend the Arab foreign ministers' conference that began its meetings in Baghdad today.

He was received at the airport by a number of Foreign Ministry officials and the Sudanese ambassador in Baghdad.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Arrives

JN2205092690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 21 May (INA)—Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Baghdad today to attend the Arab foreign ministers' meetings due to begin here tomorrow [22 May]. [passage omitted]

Arab Foreign Ministers Begin Meetings in Baghdad

JN2205091090 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Baghdad—The meetings of the Arab foreign ministers' conference began in Baghdad a short while ago in order to pave the way for the extraordinary Arab summit on 28 May.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, addressed the opening session of the conference.

During their two-day conference, the Arab foreign ministers will discuss the agenda of the extraordinary Arab summit, which is to list issues related to pan-Arab security and the means to protect it from Zionist threats.

In statements upon arrival in Baghdad to television and radio correspondents, a number of Arab foreign ministers stressed the importance of holding the summit at this time when the Arab nation is facing fateful challenges.

Klibi Receives Message From Soviet Leadership

JN2205091890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May (INA)—Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi received an oral message from the Soviet leadership today.

Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad Viktor Posuvalyuk conveyed the message when Chedli Klibi received him today.

Islamic Jihad Calls for Killing Americans

NC2205062190 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh Sayyid Barakah, one of the leaders of the Islamic Jihad movement in Palestine, has appealed to all free men and mujahidin in Palestine and the Arab and Muslim world to pursue Americans everywhere and to kill them in punishment for their killing of our people in Palestine and elsewhere. He also appealed to them to take a firm stand to support the oppressed Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

U.S. Urged To Intervene for Palestinians

JN2105221990 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1738 GMT 21 May 90

["Text" of protest memorandum "over yesterday's massacre in occupied territories" submitted to the U.S. ambassador to Tunisia by Hakam Bal'awi, Fatah Central Committee member and Palestinian envoy in Tunis—date not given]

[Text] In an extremely serious development in the series of the ugly bloody crimes being committed by the Israeli authorities against the sons of our Palestinian people in the occupied homeland, an Israeli soldier armed with an M-16 rifle carried out a criminal massacre at 0600 today against a group of Palestinian workers who were trying to earn their living near Tel Aviv, martyring eight workers and wounding 10 others, seven of them seriously.

This new Israeli massacre as well as previous brutal crimes are new evidence of the Israeli authorities' insistence and determination to continue their genocidal plans against our people, to evacuate them by any means, and to continue to step up and expand these massacres and criminal acts without considering any human values and international charters. By these acts, these authorities are defying the will of the international community. In addition to the Tel Aviv massacre, the occupation army carried out other criminal practices and massacres throughout the occupied Palestinian territories this morning. As a result, 20 people were martyred and 1,200 others were wounded as of noon today.

In view of the gravity of these Israeli practices and the escalation of Israeli barbarity and crimes that threaten, in an unprecedented way, a comprehensive explosion of the situation, the PLO—while urging the international community to assume its responsibility for confronting these ugly Israeli massacres and crimes, put an immediate end to them, provide protection for the Palestinian people in accordance with international legitimacy, and mete out the punishment this legitimacy decides against the occupation authorities for their crimes against humanity—reiterates its demand that the U.S. Administration in particular shoulder its responsibility to halt the continuation and escalation of these Israeli crimes and take a firm, practical, and urgent stand to prevent more brutal and shameful barbaric crimes.

The PLO also reaffirms that an urgent, effective U.S. intervention will provide protection for our Palestinian people in the occupied homeland and will put an end to this escalating bloody Israeli plan, which is becoming increasingly severe and expansive day by day. This has become extremely important and more urgent than ever before. Thus, the PLO holds the U.S. Administration responsible for the continuation and escalation of the crimes committed by the Israeli occupation authorities, which are using the biased U.S. positions and policies as a cover and an encouragement to carry out their bloody plans and ignore international values and charters.

The PLO also stresses its legitimate rights and its firm determination to confront these Israeli crimes and to bear its responsibilities for defending and protecting the Palestinian people with all means.

'Arafat To Seek Visa To Attend UN Session

JN2105203190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1930 GMT 21 May 90

[By Faruq Shukri]

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (WAKH)—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat announced here tonight that he has decided to attend the extraordinary UN Security Council session requested by the PLO to discuss the Israeli crime which resulted in the deaths of seven Palestinian workers yesterday.

'Arafat said he will leave for New York if the U.S. Administration grants him an entry visa. Otherwise, he said: We will seek to hold a UN Security Council session outside the United States.

At a press conference held at his place of residence in Baghdad, 'Arafat stressed the importance of holding a UN Security Council session. He said: The issue of the meeting and setting its venue has become the responsibility of the UN General Secretariat.

He also said: We will demand international protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. This time, we appeal to U.S. President George Bush not to disregard human rights and protect Israel's crimes. We also hope the U.S. representative will not use the veto as was the case before.

'Arafat stressed that the PLO will also demand sanctions against Israel as was the case in the past with South Africa's regime.

During the press conference, 'Arafat appeared emotionally affected by the high number of victims that have fallen in the occupied territories over the past 48 hours. Before the conference, he viewed a video report aired by Baghdad television tonight about the heroic confrontation by Palestinians with Israeli troops' criminal practices throughout the occupied territories.

'Arafat strongly criticized the Greek Government's decision today to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

He said: Could the Greek prime minister not find a time more suitable than this day to announce his country's decision to recognize Israel? How come he forgot that the attacks in east Jerusalem targeted the Eastern Church?

'Arafat also condemned the attack against French tourists in Amman today.

He said: This is an act of sabotage which we utterly condemn, because its aim is to undermine Jordan's security and stability, tarnish the Arab image, sabotage Arab-European relations, and camouflage the Israeli crime perpetrated in the occupied territories yesterday.

'Arafat, in the name of the Palestinian people, thanked the French Government for its statement denouncing the horrible Israeli crime against the Palestinian laborers.

He called on the European Community to follow France's suit and condemn the Israeli crime.

'Arafat contended that what Israel did, through Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, was to send a message to the Arabs on the eve of the Arab summit and the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers.

He said: The peoples, governments, and leaders of the Arab nation should assume their responsibility in protecting the Palestinian people against the continuation of these ugly massacres, the latest of which has resulted, according to latest toll, in 21 martyrs and 1,650 wounded.

At the end of the press conference, 'Arafat sent a strong warning to the Israeli occupation authorities and said: Events will take on a louder voice from now on, and Shamir should understand that all his tools of oppression will never affect the morale of our people or their determination to score victory.

The Palestinian people, he added, have proven to be incapable of being broken, put down, or harmed.

'Arafat Receives Invitation to Arab Summit

JN2105145490 Baghdad INA in English 1050 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, May 21, INA—President Saddam Husayn has invited president Yasir 'Arafat of the state of palestine to attend the extraordinary Arab summit opening in Baghdad on 28th instant. Mr. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy premier and foreign minister has delivered a message of invitation to president 'Arafat.

'Arafat Receives Soviet Ambassador

LD1405184890 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] In Tunis this afternoon the brother president leader, Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the state of Palestine, received the Soviet ambassador. Together they reviewed the latest political developments in the region and the situation in the occupied homeland in light of the increasing acts of repression perpetrated by the occupation authorities against the children of our people who have risen against them and their fascist repressive methods. The meeting also covered the new Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and the threat this represents to Arab security.

Tunisian Head Meets 'Arafat Before U.S. Visit

JN1305165690 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat held talks in Tunis last night. Brother Yasir 'Arafat said after the meeting that he had briefed President Ben Ali of the outcome of his recent tour of Arab countries prior to the extraordinary Arab summit in Baghdad at the end of this month. He added that he had given the Palestinian viewpoint on all local, Arab, and international issues so that the Tunisian president could discuss them with U.S. President George Bush during his visit to Washington next week.

'Arafat Confers With Icelandic Premier in Tunis

JN1305201990 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1822 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Leader president Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Icelandic Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermannson in Tunis yesterday.

During the meeting, they reviewed the latest developments in the Palestine question and the situation in our occupied Palestinian territories in which our blessed intifadah escalates and continues despite the brutal crimes and massacres perpetrated by the occupation troops against our unarmed sons. They also discussed current Arab and international developments.

The Icelandic prime minister stressed his country's support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and its strong rejection of the Israeli violation of the Palestinian citizen's human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories.

'Arafat Meets With UN Information Delegation

LD1505211590 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] The brother president and leader 'Abu-Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], head of the state of Palestine, received the UN information delegation which is carrying out a tour to include Jordan, Egypt, and Syria in addition to Tunisia on a mission to study the Palestinian issue. The delegation includes members from Australia, Belgium, Canada, the FRG, Holland, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden, Brita.n, the United States, and Yugoslavia.

The brother president and leader 'Abu-Ammar replied to the delegation's questions about the Palestinian issue; the prospects of peace; the escalation of the oppressive

and terrorist campaigns against our people by the occupation authorities; and the dangers of Jewish emigration to Palestine and Arab national security in general.

Finnish Envoy Conveys Koivisto Message to 'Arafat

JN1605201590 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1821 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Brother President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received a message from Finnish President Mauno Koivisto on the latest developments in the Middle East. The message was delivered to Brother Abu-al-Lutf [Farug Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, when he received the Finnish ambassador in Algiers the day before yesterday.

'Arafat Arrives in Algiers 16 May

LD1605160290 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, arrived in Algiers this morning. He was welcomed at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Mr. Sid Ahmed Ghazali, minister of foreign affairs, and the ambassador of the state of Palestine to Algeria.

PLO To Issue 'Compulsory Military Service Law'

JN1905134090 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 17 May 90 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that the PLO is preparing to issue a law on compulsory military service as of the beginning of next year. Under this law, Palestinian youth will be obligated to join Palestinian forces stationed in some Arab countries. Informed Palestinian sources said the PLO will consult with the Arab countries hosting Palestinians in order to help implement this law.

Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh on Soviet Jewish Emigration

LD1205231190 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Mr. Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Bureau, disclosed that the Soviet Union was legally able to limit the emigration of its Jewish citizens, considering that part of the migrants infiltrate the occupied Palestinian territories, which helps to deprive another people of its right to independence and self-determination.

In a statement he made to the paper EL SAHAFA, which it published in its edition for today, the Palestinian official affirmed that the way to respond to emigration is to work for its limitation and to continue to make greater efforts to achieve a political solution and guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people to the territory of their homeland. He also called for the preservation and development of the Palestinian-Arab relations with the Soviet Union.

Israel's 'Political Crisis' Called 'Irresolvable'

JN1505194590 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1842 GMT 15 May 90

["Reading of the Political Situation" feature: "The Crisis and the Impossibility in Israel"]

[Text] Brothers: Perhaps the most prominent inference one can draw from the government crisis within the Zionist entity is the lack of any partition, gap, difference, or disparity among the political forces in the entity of the Israeli enemy, especially between the two major parties, the Likud and the Alignment. This is especially true when it comes to the basic issue—the future of peace in the Middle East. On this particular issue, there is neither moderation nor extremism, but almost fully identical views. Indeed, there is no difference between the position of the Labor Party and that of the religious extremists.

This is precisely the reason behind Israel's irresolvable crisis. In regard to the political future, the Israeli voter finds no distinction between the competing forces in Israel. All these forces, which rule the Zionist entity both in the Knesset and the government, have grown on programs of expansion, settlement, aggression, genocide, and war. This is their strategy, and they cannot change it because if they do, they will be canceling themselves.

Israel's political crisis, therefore, has no horizon, and the political forces are not expected to find a solution or even a way out. The only possibility, indeed, is to live with the crisis to the extent of erosion. It is therefore futile to try to apply political slogans or expressions that may suit other communities—slogans bordering between moderation and fascism—on the Israeli community. All Israel's political forces are sunk in the quagmire of Zionist fascism; and they are all its offspring.

It is known that this game in the Zionist entity is meant for foreign consumption; it is the window dressing of Israel's false democracy. There can be no betting, therefore, on these games and this fallacy.

Al-Najjab on PLO Moves, Summit, Lebanon

JN1105183590 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 10 May 90 p 18

[Interview with Sulayman al-Najjab, PLO Executive Committee member and member of the Palestinian Communist Party's Political Bureau, by Dr. Ahmad al-Rabi', Muhammad Khaz'al, and Tariq Madi in Kuwait; date not given]

[Excerpts] Dr Ahmad al-Rabi': We welcome brother Sulayman al-Najjab, PLO Executive Committee member and member of the Palestinian Communist Party's Political Bureau. We are glad to have him with us today. We would like him to tell us about the latest developments in the Palestinian arena.

Al-Najjab: I am honored to be the guest of AL-WATAN's diwaniyah—this celebrated newspaper a leading advocate of progress, democracy, and unity in our great Arab homeland. You are asking about the latest developments. Well, there have been many. The Palestinian leadership is currently acting on the principal levels in order to bring the Palestinian peace initiative and peace program once more into the limelight, and to prepare for the international conference.

In this context, new possibilities for action on these levels are opening up to us. Brother president Yasir 'Arafat's recent visit to France and Italy, and his meeting with the pope, have shown that Western countries still support the Palestinian peace initiative and are still dealing with the PLO in accordance with the Madrid statement. Moreover, the recent visit to Tunisia by the Soviet Government delegation headed by Polyakov, director of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, and this delegation's talks with the Palestinian leadership, demonstrated that the Soviet Union still maintains its known position of support for international efforts to convene the international conference. The Soviet Union has stated once again its views regarding a preparatory meeting. It has also proposed appointing a high-level representative of the UN secretary general for Middle East issues. The Soviet delegation stresses further the continuation of Soviet efforts within the context of its relations with West European countries and its coordination with them. Following his visit to Paris, Polyakov will go to Dublin to meet with the Troika Group in order to upgrade the level of Soviet-European coordination to hold the international conference. We have also concurred with the Soviet Union on the necessity and importance of initiating vigorous tripartite action—Arab-Soviet-European—based on the positions of these parties, which are quite close.

The new prospects that have been opened to our political activity show that the parties now taking the role of a bystander and awaiting the outcome of U.S. endeavors have lost patience. Moreover, the hopes pinned by some parties on U.S. endeavors have evaporated. It has been proven that the United States' efforts toward a unilateral solution, or a new round within this unilateral solution, are impractical and bound to fail. The United States' defiance of international will and its opposition to the international conference constitutes weak opposition that can be overcome. The U.S. stance has convinced no one. [passage omitted]

Yasir 'Arafat is making a special effort through cooperation and coordination with Arab kings and presidents to hold an emergency Arab summit whose basic mission is to forge a collective Arab position against the threats and dangers posed to Arab peoples, especially the recent Israeli threats against fraternal Iraq. In addition to support for fraternal Iraq, the summit will continue to mobilize Arab efforts to implement the resolutions of the Casablanca summit, to put effective pressure on the U.S. Administration and its anti-Arab policies, and to frustrate U.S. attempts to divide the unity of Arab policy and ranks.

We consider work on the Israeli front to be especially important at present, al-Najjab added. All bets on Peres have failed. Peres is not a political substitute for Shamir; he supports the Shamir plan. The current crisis in Israel is a political crisis, al-Najjab contended. [passage omitted]

Regarding the threats to fraternal Iraq, the campaign, though fabricated, is nevertheless serious. We believe that supporting fraternal Iraq is a pan-Arab and national duty. We also believe that this solidarity should go beyond mere official statements. We are looking to the Arab summit to take progressive positions. What do I mean by progressive positions? I refer to the important speech delivered by President Saddam Husayn in Amman during the latest Arab Cooperation Council meeting. This speech contained a draft plan for genuine Arab solidarity and for rallying Arab resources to serve Arab causes. We are hoping that the Arab summit will adopt a comprehensive program based on the proposals in President Saddam Husayn's speech. The Arab summit should initiate such a working program, joint Arab action, and the rallying of Arab resources to serve the interests of all Arab countries.

Muhammad Khaz'al: What about the relationship between the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [UNLI] and the Hamas Movement these days? According to a statement, a short while ago the PLO exerted great efforts to end the conflict between 'Awn and Ja'ja', but did not succeed. How does the PLO deal with Lebanon at a time when its relations with the Lebanese legitimate government are not good?

Sulayman al-Najjab: Regarding written and published reports about Hamas, the Palestinian leadership and the UNLI, including all its factions and forces, have been making efforts to rally the strength of all the Palestinian people against the Israeli occupation. Based on this policy, it continues its efforts with regard to the Hamas Movement. In many areas, joint action is taking place against the Israeli occupation and its crimes. As is well known, the differences between the UNLI and Hamas over declaring strike days have decreased. However, Hamas continues to oppose the program of the 19th [Palestine National Council, PNC] session and proposes its own special program concerning it. Forces hostile to our people continue to try to strike at the unity of Palestinian representation manifested through the PLO. They are concentrating on Hamas for this purpose.

The media have spoken about a memorandum sent by Hamas to the PNC preparatory committee concerning Hamas' participation in the PNC and setting conditions for that. We believe there is a positive aspect to Hamas' rapprochement with the PNC. This rapprochement would frustrate the parties that have tried to find a Palestinian group that would damage the unity of the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people. However, at the same time we believe the conditions set by Hamas are totally unrealistic. One such condition is the cancellation of the 19th PNC session resolutions and abandoning the Palestinian peace program. The peace program was a unanimously

approved national decision, around which the Palestinian people in the homeland and the diaspora have rallied. It is supported by Arab summit resolutions and the countries of the world, excluding the United States and Israel. This program acquires its legitimacy from the fact that it was approved in the PNC—the only party that has the right to maintain or develop such a program. Concerning the other condition proposed by Hamas—the demand that it makes up a large portion of the PNC—we do not know the criteria Hamas has used in evaluating its importance and size among the Palestinian people and its national movement. The facts reveal something completely different. Nevertheless, the Palestinian leadership continues to rally the largest number of Palestinian forces in the battle against the occupation so that the intifadah will continue until it achieves its goals. These principles are well-known to the leadership and it bases its action and daily dealings with Hamas and other parties on them.

Concerning Lebanon, yes, the Palestinian leadership did make an effort to stop the Lebanese bloodshed. Unfortunately, this effort did not succeed. The Palestinian leadership withdrew its effort after it failed. Contrary to rumor, the Palestinian mediation was purely to stop Lebanese bloodshed. We had no such intention to offer a Palestinian initiative. Everyone is working to implement the al-Ta'if accord, which set the basis and realistic beginning for solving fraternal Lebanon's crisis. As for our relations with the Lebanese legitimate government, love cannot be one-sided. Fraternal Lebanon is the only Arab country in which PLO offices were closed and the legitimate government did not recognize the independent Palestinian state. We hope the Lebanese legitimate government will take a positive position on these two issues to help normalize and develop relations with the PLO.

Tariq Madi: The al-Ta'if accord did not incorporate any article concerning the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. How can the PLO approve an agreement that does not take note of Palestinian presence in Lebanon?

Sulayman al-Najjab: The Palestinian leadership is very interested and concerned about providing its people with their rights and guarantees, which I referred to earlier. We do not believe that the implementation of the al-Ta'if accord will take place at the expense of these rights or that it will conflict with them. As I said, the issue depends on the legitimate Lebanese government's willingness to set the minds of the Palestinian people at ease, recognize their rights, and give them the guarantees they need to live in peace and dignity in fraternal Lebanon until they return to the land of their Palestinian state. [passage omitted]

UNLI Issues Intifadah Call No. 56 13 May

JN1305213290 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1843 GMT 13 May 90

[Call No. 56, issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah—date, place not given]

[Text] Call, call, call. No voice rises above the voice of the intifadah, no voice rises above the voice of the people of Palestine, people of the PLO. Call No. 56 issued by the PLO, the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [UNLI] in the state of Palestine, the call of return, the call of the Jabalyah of steadfastness and confrontation.

O heroic people, who are confronting the fiercest methods of savage persecution with defiance, steadfastness, faith, and determination to score a victory and defeat the ugly Nazi Zionist occupation: Today, as our intifadah is beginning its 30th month, our people mark the 42d anniversary of the usurpation of our homeland and the displacement of our people in 1948. This anniversary comes at a time when our people are closer than ever to achieving victory, seizing their national independence, establishing their independent state under the PLO, and exercising their right to repatriation and self-determination.

O great people, the enemy country is undergoing a rightist onslaught that is mobilizing the most arrogant leaders of malicious Zionist racism. Let our reply to all these be more painful blows to the occupation soldiers and the unrestrained settlers. Let us reply to them with deeds, only deeds—with stones, molotov cocktails, and all that is within the reach of your hands—so that we can prove to the rancorous fascists that the hands of our strike forces and our heroic people's will are stronger than their lethal weapons, which you have neutralized and returned to the enemy depots. Thus, you have caused the enemy's amazement, disappointment, and bitterness.

With the escalation and consolidation of your intifadah, with the expansion of its popular base, and with its flaming revolutionary momentum, we reaffirm the need to raise intifadah activities to a higher stage and to use advanced and innovative tactics commensurate with the situation and superior to all the methods the enemy invents and devises against your popular intifadah.

Our great people, at these moments of your valiant struggling epic, our kinfolk in Jabalyah, Bayt Furik, Nabulus, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Khan Yunus, Balatah, Jerusalem, Rafah, the Tulkarm camp, and every inch of our beloved land continue their heroic confrontation of the occupation soldiers, shattering their morale and inflicting humiliation, disgrace, helplessness, and failure on them. A greeting to heroic Jabalyah, the spark of the uprising and the bearer of its torch. A greeting to our steadfast heroes in Bayt Furik, the citadel of steadfastness and honor. A greeting to all free strugglers everywhere on our good earth.

Our great people who have offered convoys of martyrs and thousands of prisoners and detainees: The oppressive prison authorities have resorted to a desperate attempt to crush the intifadah by dealing a blow to the triumphant prisoner movement. They are opening solitary confinement block at the Ramlah detention center under the name of (Nispan) where a group of our militants with heroic and daring operations to their credit are being subjected to the most atrocious kinds of degradation, torture, and slow, programmed murder.

Let our support for our brother revolutionaries in the detention centers and prisons take the form of solidarity with them and their families. Let us work to ease the pressure against them by following up their news and mobilizing our energies to stand by them in their plight through demonstrations and sit-ins and by winning public opinion over to their cause.

We salute all our prisoner revolutionaries in interrogation rooms, jails, and detention centers, and let us offer them all that is dear to us. Let us bolster their steadfastness with ours. We salute all revolutionaries still active in the arenas of struggle.

On the local front, the UNLI sends greetings to our heroic masses in Jabalyah camp and most heartfelt condolences to the families of the martyrs and to the wounded and detainees following the massacre committed by the Zionist enemy against our kinfolk there on the first day of 'Id al-Fitr. The UNLI also prizes the pioneering role of the Gaza Strip masses in boycotting Zionist commodities and it calls on our masses in the West Bank to emulate our kinfolk in Gaza Strip by slapping a total boycott on Zionist fruits and vegetables. The UNLI will continue to deal with patrons of Israeli goods for which there are national substitutes. At the same time, the UNLI emphasizes that our strike forces are part of us and that they regard our people with compassion and love.

The UNLI sends greetings to the residents of the heroic village of Bayt Furik as they demonstrate disobedience and defiance to the oppressive occupation forces, and urges our masses wherever they are to escalate our intifadah and widen the scope of confrontation in order to ease the burden on our kinfolk in the areas under siege and curfew.

The UNLI prizes the spirit of love and tolerance shown by our people regarding the St. John Hospice affair, it values Islamic-Christian cohesion in standing up to the settler herds in the heart of our capital Jerusalem, and urges the silence of discordant voices of certain suspect circles. The UNLI emphasizes that all of us—Muslims and Christians alike—are targeted by our treacherous enemy. We are in the same trench against our Zionist enemy, which seeks to liquidate all Arabs—Muslims and Christians alike.

The UNLI stresses the importance of education as a national requirement and an essential weapon in our battle against the enemy. It urges our son and brother students to be hardworking, attend their regular classes, and rely on themselves to prevent the enemy from stultifying our people by closing schools, institutions, and universities. The UNLI also stresses its previous statements on municipalities and local councils and condemns attempts by some parties and persons, especially in the city of Gaza and the northern area, to contain this issue. The UNLI warns everyone stealing the people's money under the pretext of collecting donations on behalf of the UNLI. It also states that its committees do not collect donations. The UNLI warns some individuals, who have recently been active in the Ramallah area and other areas and who have been taking citizens' cars at night on the pretext of using them for the intifadah-related purposes. The UNLI stresses its determination to expose these people. Therefore, the strike forces will monitor and pursue them in order to punish them in an appropriate way to protect citizens' security and safeguard their property.

On the Palestinian and Arab levels, the UNLI stresses the need to expedite the convening of an emergency Arab summit conference to draw up a comprehensive Arab policy to confront the continuation of the hostile U.S. policy, the conspiracies against fraternal Iraq, and the brutal settlement onslaught that threatens the future and security of the Palestinian people and the entire Arab nation—a settlement caused by opening the door to emigration from the Soviet Union and Eastern bloc countries to our occupied territories.

The UNLI stresses the importance of holding a new session of the Palestine National Council to review and assess the past period, study regional and international developments and changes, and draw up a new plan to confront the fascist onslaught against our people, which is represented in the rightist, Zionist, and racist expansion and large-scale immigration.

The UNLI also values highly the role of some Arab nationalist movements and activities in supporting the intifadah. It also urges other liberation forces in the Arab countries to follow suit.

On the international level, the UNLI calls for placing the occupied Arab territories under international supervision to end our people's suffering and the criminal daily violations of the most basic human rights. It also calls on our people to carry out the following activities:

1. To complete and build popular organs in all places and draw up militant field programs in order to unify all the activities based on the unity of the intifadah forces.

2. To promote the economic structure, cultivate the land, establish cooperatives, encourage domestic economy, rationalize consumption, and consolidate the boycott of Zionist goods, especially agricultural products that have invaded many markets.

3. The UNLI calls on real estate owners not to close their property to tenants and not to raise rates arbitrarily. It calls on tenants to pay their rents and establish a relationship with their landlords based on understanding and mutual cooperation.

4. 12, 13, 14 May shall be days of confrontations and full escalation against the occupation forces.

5. 15 May, the day on which the British-Zionist conspiracy against our people was implemented, shall be a day of comprehensive strike on which everybody takes to the streets to burn tires and confront occupation soldiers and settlers. Let the day of strike be a day of action,

confrontation, and extensive field activity, not a day of relaxation in houses. The strike shall be confined to commercial activity and public transportation. We warn private vehicle owners against charging passengers on the days of comprehensive strike.

6. 17 and 18 May shall be days of national reconciliation during which good offices committees shall actively endeavor to settle individual and family disputes and bring about cordiality. The UNLI also demands that the decisions made by its national committees in the sites, concerning disputes, be implemented.

7. 19 May, Saturday, shall be a day for the closed universities, institutes, and schools. All students, teachers, and administrative staff shall go to their closed universities and schools at 1000 that day to exercise their right to learning and education and to expose the ugly face of the Zionist occupation in the event that it tries to prevent this action.

8. 22 May shall be a day of condemnation of the hostile U.S. policy against our people, especially the resolution of the U.S. Senate considering Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and encouraging Jewish settlement in all parts of Jerusalem, and the continuation of U.S. pressure to ensure continued emigration of Jews from the USSR and the Eastern bloc to our occupied homeland. On this day, protest demonstrations shall be organized in front of the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem, memorandums underscoring our position on U.S. bias toward Israel and denial of our human, political, and national rights shall be handed in, and similar demonstrations shall be staged throughout our occupied homeland.

9. 22 May [as heard] shall be a day of comprehensive strike to underscore the Arabism of Jerusalem, on which public transportation shall be allowed to work to transport our masses from all parts of the occupied homeland to perform the noon prayers at al-Aqsa mosque and visit the sacred Christian sites in Jerusalem, including the St. John Hospice.

10. 24 May shall be a day of repentance for the collaborators. These shall be called upon to return to the ranks of the masses. This is a good gesture toward those who retreat and prove their good intentions. At the same time, the UNLI stresses the need to confront armed collaborators by all means.

11. 25 May shall be a day of national interaction between all nationalist forces to emphasize the unity of the people, land, and cause and to undermine all occupation attempts to infiltrate our domestic front.

12. 26, 27, and 28 May shall be days of escalation and field activities.

13. 29 May shall be a day of distinctive activities expressing solidarity with our detainees in Israeli jails.

14. On 31 May, the day of the Gorbachev-Bush meeting, protest marches will be organized in all sites of Palestinian diaspora against the immigration of Soviet Jews to our Palestinian land and against the resolutions of the U.S. Congress, the continuation of U.S. support for Israel, the U.S. encouragement of Israel's aggressive policy, and the establishment of further settlements and expansion of the already existing ones with U.S. funds and under the protection of U.S. arms.

15. 1 June shall be the day of the child. Marches and festivities paying tribute to the role of the Palestinian child and his sacrifices shall be staged. Injured in hospitals and families of martyrs and detainees shall also be visited to support them and boost their steadfastness.

Glory and immortality for our righteous martyrs. It is a revolution until victory. Long live the UNLI, the militant arm of the PLO. Long live the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Long live the independent Palestinian state.

Signed: The PLO, the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah in the state of Palestine

Algeria

President Denounces 'Tendentious Media Campaigns'

LD2105122590 Algiers APS in English 1004 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Algiers, 21 May (APS)—"We are working in order to materialize the will of our people and their aspirations in the field of freedom of expression and in order to open the way to alternance and the exchange of responsibilities in various fields", President Chadli Bendjedid declared Sunday while receiving the members of the permanent Bureau of the Union of Arab Lawyers.

"The deep changes Algeria witnesses, he added, are not the result of improvisation but result from a deeply thought action which has been prepared since a number of years. We started it at the beginning of the 1980's.

President Chadli Bendjedid also noted that "The ongoing efforts give our people the freedom to express themselves frankly in order to clarify the vision about the prospects and the future of this nation and its rising generations.

Dealing with the post-independence era, the head of state said "we had to use a certain mode of management because we had no choice".

"This mode of management was dictated on us by objective causes, mainly the liberation war, the absence of economic basis and qualified managers, he said adding that Algeria has managed thanks to the Algerian revolution and efforts made by this nation, to edify a strong economic basis and a solid educational system".

Dealing with the forthcoming Arab extraordinary summit, the head of state said Algeria believes in meetings at all levels.

"We have worked, the president of the republic said, and we continue to work within the limits of our possibilities in order to try and convince everyone of the necessity of this meeting". In this context, he reiterated the support and solidarity of Algeria with Iraq against threats it is subject to. Dealing with the freedom of justice which is a sine qua non condition for the exercise of democracy, President Chadli Bendjedid said the constitution is clear about this subject. "We have given all prerogatives to men of law as we are confident that the success of the process Algeria is living through depends in a great part on the success of the sector of justice", the head of state pointed out.

Concerning the internal situation in Algeria and the tendentious media campaigns waged against it by western countries, the head of state noted the contradictions of the western press in the treatment of the situation in Algeria and in Europe.

He indicated that the western press qualifies the situation in Algeria as anarchic and which could lead to a civil war whereas it considers similar events that happen either in Eastern or Western Europe as gains for democracy.

The president of the republic underlined that the Algerian people are exercising democracy and any one who declares that they are on the way of a civil war shows a lack of knowledge of the realities of the Algerian people who, everytime the national interest is a stake, mobilize around the national unity which is a sacred thing as Arabity and Islam.

On another development, the head of state underlined that the marches organized recently lead towards optimism but underlined at the same time that the western press wanted to minimize the FLN [National Liberation Front] march.

Government To Increase Civil Servant Pay

LD2105134890 Algiers APS in English 1016 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Algiers, 21 MAY (APS)—The Council of Government decided Sunday the increase of salaries for clerks and civil servants by ten per cent (10 per cent) starting from July.

The council, which met under the chairmanship of the head of government, Mouloud Hamrouche, also examined conditions in which work relations are evolving in the various sectors of activity in light of actions of economic, commerical and financial healthening which have been undertaken and the movement of prices.

The Council of Government gave a great importance to the setting up of mechanisms of negotiations and arbitration which laws provide for on labour relations in the field of evolution of salary incomes and the active participation of social partners and mainly workers at all levels in programs of the defence and protection of the purchasing power of workers and the dinar in this period of healthening in order to make economic and social reforms advance. [sentence as received]

Egypt

Mubarak Addresses Socialist International Session

NC2205095990 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0729 GMT 22 May 90

[Speech by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak at the opening session of the Socialist International conference at the National Democratic Party Headquarters in Cairo—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful and Compassionate.

Mr. Chairman, party and delegation leaders, ladies and gentlemen: I welcome you to Cairo on behalf of the people of Egypt, who appreciate the important, positive role the Socialist International plays in the service of peace and the right to lead a dignified life, which respects man's humanity and enables him to play his proper role in a society that seeks justice and freedom. What makes this meeting especially important is the large number of prominent world figures gathered here. This makes us

proud, and we extend a heartfelt welcome to our guests and sincerely want you to know the land of Egypt is your second homeland, and the people of Egypt are pleased with this gathering and proud of the unselfish efforts you have exerted and are exerting to serve the noble goals to which you have devoted your lives.

Undoubtedly the success of the National Democratic Party in joining this solemn congregation is an important victory and a great achievement realized by the majority party, which strengthens its presence on the international scene and complements the direct relations it has established with foreign political parties and international organizations.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are advocates of peace. Peace to us is not a mere word, but an indivisible part of our strategy for building our society. Our efforts to establish just peace in this region and in the entire world therefore will not cease. We are unshakeable in our belief peace is the right of man because peace is the essence of life. If man fails to live in peace with himself and with others, then his life loses its reason for being. Man's struggle for peace, therefore, is closely linked with his struggle to protect this peace from everything that threatens it. This is a joint responsibility of all peoples, great and small, rich and poor. There can be no happiness at the expense of others' misery.

When people live in peace, they are able to lead dignified lives in societies that reject social and political oppression, achieve justice and equality, and build good citizens who exercise their rights and fulfill their responsibilities. From this premise, we are in full agreement with the Socialist International's goals and objectives embodied in its efforts to promote world peace, lay the groundwork for social egalitarianism within member countries as a basis for relations among them, and eliminate all forms of social and political oppression.

In addition, we fully sympathize with the Socialist International's ideological framework based on the principles of democratic socialism. These principles are the outcome of an international ideological development based on two related principles; that is, a political principle represented in freeing the individual politically and intellectually and an economic principle represented in freeing the individual socially and economically so he effectively can exercise his political rights.

We thus throughout our history have adapted our situation in Egypt to the necessity of progress in a way free from odious fanaticism, lethal rancor, or bloody confrontation. Our first and foremost goal is to build a free man who can play a role in decisions affecting his life and future. The necessity of progress is clear, and the movement of society cannot be stopped whatever the obstacles.

As we approach the end of the 20th century, the world is witnessing profound events and important developments that herald the dawn of a new age. Perhaps you share my view that this is truly a new age in which the value of man will rise, and his right to democratic participation will be emphasized. Since the history and development of mankind not only is measured in years, but also in social developments and revolutionary transformations in society, there is no doubt the recent developments in much of the world—the uprisings and transformations—score a new victory for man in his battle for survival and development.

There is no doubt the Socialist International always has worked to achieve a sound balance between the interests of the individual and those of society on the one hand and between man's material and moral needs on the other. Thus its role will become more important amid the current international developments. Allow me to relate some ideas in this area:

1. Forming an independent vision of the future. Current international developments herald a genuine relaxation in relations among the big powers. This relaxation may lead to a great progress in settling several international problems which had long remained insoluble. Undoubtedly, the Socialist International, which calls for reducing tension and expanding the scope of cooperation and co-existence among states, both big and small, is today more qualified than any other body to play a positive role in consolidating this trend. This requires the movement put forward an independent vision of the objective conditions that will guarantee continued progress toward the relaxation of tension and allow the international community to share in the benefits.

2. Enlarging the movement's scope. Membership in the Socialist International is no longer confined to European parties, and it now numbers parties from the Third World among its members. I believe the time has come for the movement to expand its membership among Third World parties to reflect a broader and more comprehensive concept of internationalism. This would make the movement one of the most important political and intellectual tools in today's world, which would protect the vital interests and legitimate rights of the Third World peoples in the era of detente. This would make the movement more effective in the settlement of regional differences, rectification of existing imbalances in the world economic structure, and achievement of as much balance and equality as possible between the interests of the developed rich countries and developing ones, which are endeavoring to stop the cycle of poverty and backwardness.

3. Collective work for the sake of greater cooperation and solidarity. It is necessary the Socialist International should remain faithful to the principles and values which leader Willy Brandt expressed when he called for interdependence and for entrenching a concept based on the importance of reducing conflicts between the interests of various countries and increasing cooperation and solidarity.

It is no secret our world today is sitting on a powder keg due to the growing gap between developed industrialized

countries and the developing ones. The destructive consequences of this situation are not limited to the developing countries alone, but extend to all countries in greater or lesser degree. Prosperity and development cannot continue in one part of the world if other parts are groaning under crushing pressures, suffering from the dangers of famine and shortages of basic foods and medicines, and unable to buy manufactured goods and the necessary production equipment from the developed countries. This has prompted the call for reviving the North-South dialogue and preventing establishment of a new type of iron curtain that would divide the world between a rich North and poor South. This situation cannot be confronted except through collective action undertaken in a spirit of unity. The Socialist International is the movement most capable of shouldering this mission and confronting this danger to world peace.

Ladies and gentlemen, after this brief overview I now wish to focus on two issues. The first is the fraternal South African people's right to end the system of racial domination that is a mark of shame for humanity. The Socialist International—which gives priority and top attention to issues of exploitation and improving human rights—today undoubtedly stands firmly with our African people in South Africa for the sake of intensifying pressure on the racist apartheid regime in Pretoria and firmly and decisively confronting it.

The second issue is the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. The fraternal Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO for the sake of right, justice, national liberation, and self-determination undoubtedly attracts the interest and support of the Socialist International. This is bolstered by the positive, courageous stand the Palestinian leadership has adopted ever since it declared its willingness to shoulder full responsibility for building a just peace and achieving a historic reconciliation between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples as a basic and indispensable element in attaining a stable Arab-Israeli coexistence. This was followed by the eruption of the flame of the intifadah in the occupied Palestinian land.

I believe the Socialist International must confront the danger of Soviet Jewish immigration to the occupied Palestinian land, which threatens to undermine the peace process and brings the entire region to the brink of a new bloody confrontation that only can harm the interests of all peoples in the region.

Mr. Chairman, party and delegation leaders, ladies and gentlemen, I fear I have spoken too long. I repeat our welcome to you in Egypt. I wish you all success in your mission so this meeting will be a new step on the path of peace and social justice that will fulfill the hopes of your peoples who look on your noble mission with all confidence. May God grant you success. Peace and the mercy and blessings of God be upon you.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC2105130790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 May (MENA)—Sudanese Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Sahlul arrived in Cairo today on a several-hour visit, after which he will leave for Baghdad.

Upon arrival, the Sudanese minister stated the situation in Sudan is calm, and rumors about instability are intended to aggravate the situation. He said there is a fierce war being launched against Sudan to undermine its stability and impede its development.

He added the perils and challenges facing the Arab nation now, particularly events in southern Sudan and the Israeli practices in the region, require practical steps and decisive action. [passage omitted]

Wraps Up Visit, Departs

NC2205063190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2342 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 May (MENA)—Sudanese Foreign Minister 'Ali Ahmad Sahlul tonight left Cairo for Baghdad, where he will pay an official four-day visit. He will attend the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers, which will begin in the Iraqi capital tomorrow.

The Sudanese official arrived in Cairo this morning for a visit which lasted several hours.

'Arafat Departs After Meeting With Mubarak

LD2105013290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2330 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 20 May (MENA)—President Yasir 'Arafat [words indistinct] left Cairo this evening after a two-day visit to Egypt, during which he was received by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

The Palestinian president held talks with President Mubarak on developments in the Middle East situation and the Palestinian cause.

'Abd-al-Majid Heads to Foreign Ministers Meeting

NC2105164090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1628 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 May (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo for Baghdad this afternoon as head of Egypt's delegation to the Arab foreign ministers meeting. The meeting will prepare for the Arab summit due to be conducted in Baghdad on 28 May.

Minister 'Ubayd Departs on Visit to Kuwait

NC2105200090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 May (MENA)—Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister for cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development, left Cairo for Kuwait this afternoon on a one-day visit.

In a predeparture statement, Dr. 'Ubayd said he is taking a message for Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Sabah from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the results of his recent overseas tour that took him to the Sultanate of Oman, the PRC, the DPRK, the Soviet Union, and Britain. The message also deals with a number of current Arab issues before the Arab summit convenes.

Libya

Spokesman Denies U.S. Report on Al-Rabitah

LD2205084290 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tripoli, 22 May 90, JANA—A spokesman for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation has denied allegations made by the U.S. WASHINGTON TIMES that the al-Rabitah factory is continuing to produce chemical weapons.

In a statement to JANA, the spokesman emphasized the newspaper's story is without any foundation. He said, contrary to the allegations of the U.S. Administration and others, the factory, which was exposed to fire last March, produces pharmaceuticals.

The spokesman said the Great Jamahiriyah previously had called for the abolition of chemical weapons from the Middle East region and urged the destruction of such weapons at the international level. He said the Great Jamahiriyah need not reiterate these positions again.

News Agency Editor Condemns Zionist 'Slaughter'

LD2105152190 Tripoli JANA in English 1430 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tripoli, al-Ma' [May] 20 [date as received] JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Arab affairs editor of JANA has commented on the horrible slaughter committed by the Zionist occupation gangs yesterday morning against the Palestinian Arab people saying that this new crime is added to the record of the Zionist terrorists. It reconfirms the nature of the Zionist enemy and its method based on usurpation, murder and displacement. It once again exposes before the international public opinon the usual conduct of these gangs reminding us of the previous mass-murders committed by these Zionists in Dayr Yasin, Bahr al-Baqar, Sabra and Shatila and others.

The editor adds that this crime is no different from other Zionist crimes. It represents the continuation of the method adopted by the Zionists ever since the ominous Balfour Declaration calling for the destruction of the Arab nation and establishing on its ruins the Zionist entity. It places before us the following facts warned against by the Great al-Fatih Revolution [words indistinct]:

(?First), the Zionist enemy is not for peace. It doesn't work for the Palestinian question. Rather, it uses all its potentials given to it by its colonialist and imperialist allies—the enemies of the Arab nation—to realize the dream cherished by the Zionists represented by establishing the so-called Greater Israel extending from the Euphrates to the Nile.

Second: The only language understood by the Zionists is one of force being the only language of communication to be adopted by the Arab nation in dealing with the Zionist terrorist gangs.

Third: This new crime against the nationals of the Arab nation, which is not the last, exposes anew the real face of the Zionist terrorists whose crimes have surpassed what can be visualized. This face expresses openly and candidly that peace is the last thing thought of by the Zionist terrorists.

Fourth: The generation of anger that made the people's revolution break out in occupied Palestine for the last 30 months and have firmly and steadfastly stood against repression and terrorism of the Zionists is capable of taking revenge for this abominable crime taking revenge for the martyrs in this mass murder and other slaughters filling the bloody record of the Zionists. This will be achieved regardless of time and no despite the efforts of those who propogate the capitulationist line try to forget these crimes or make them go into oblivion. [sentence as received]

Pakistan's Bhutto Arrives, Makes Statement

LD2105215190 Tripoli JANA in English 1821 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tripoli, al-Ma' 21 [21 May] JANA—Arab Maghreb Union's Pool—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of sisterly Pakistan and her accompanying delegation arrived at Tripoli International Airport at noon today on a state visit to great Jamahiriyah.

An official welcoming ceremony was held for the Pakistani prime minister headed by the secretary of the General People's Committee.

Taking part in the reception were a number of members of the General People's Committee, officers of the armed people, members of the diplomatic corps accredited to great Jamahiriyah and large groups of the Pakistani community present on the land of great Jamahiriyah who were carrying portraits of the leader of the revolution and those of Benazir Bhutto and placards expressing the deep rooted links and relations between the two sisterly countries.

The Pakistani crowds chanted for a long time long live the great al-Fatih revolution and its leader the starter of the era of the masses Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In a statement to JANA after her arrival, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said:

"I would like in the beginning to avail myself of this opportunity to express my great appreciation and gratitude to the warm reception and hospitality me and members of my delegation received which is an evidence of the deep rooted existing friendship between the Libyan Arab peoples and the Pakistani people...

"In this visit I carry with me the good heart feelings and the special appreciation from the people and the government of Pakistan to the leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan Arab people" she explained that her visit will give her the opportunity to exchange point of views with the leader and to convey the greetings of the Pakistani people to him.

She said "on this occasion I thank the leader for his solidarity and sympathy with the Pakistani people and with martyr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto." She explained that the friendship had existed between the two leaders and has established a deep foundation for close cooperation between the peoples of Pakistan and Great Jamahiriyah.

She added "the support the leader has offered to the just causes of Muslims all over the world was the point of interest and inspiration and great appreciation from the people and the government of Pakistan."

The prime minister of Pakistan indicated the relations between the two countries had witnessed a significant progress since the People's Democratic Party of Pakistan came to power in al-Kanun—December—1988 which was followed by the exchange of visits between numerous delegations to strengthen, and to open new fields, for cooperation between the two countries. She asserted the Pakistani delegations, which previously visited great Jamahiriyah were met with attention and care. She expressed thanks and appreciation for the interest from the Libyan Arab side to promote friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

She said "Great Jamahiriyah and Pakistan are two states caring for Islamic principles and tradition and Islamic values. They both work to enhance them, spread them, and emphasize such noble Islamic principles...

"Great Jamahiriyah is considered a second home for thousands of Pakistani workers who are giving contributions in the field of development and economic progress witnessed by great Jamahiriyah." She hailed the developments and the renaissance Great Jamahiriyah is witnessing in various fields.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan stressed the importance of establishing and enhancing peace and security in various parts of the world and for the Palestine Arab people in occupied Palestine the granting of its legitimate rights.

She indicated that she was looking forward during her visit to discuss bilateral relations and the opening of new prospects in economy, development and other various fields of cooperation which can be established between the two countries. She expressed confidence that this visit will strengthen the existing relations between the two countries more and more.

With regards to the U.S. aggression against Great Jamahiriyah, Benazir Bhutto said "Pakistan condemns all sorts of terrorism. Pakistan had condemned the failed U.S. aggression against Great Jamahiriyah in 1986" she expressed strong denounciation for such treacherous aggression.

And on the Jewish exodus into occupied Palestine, Benazir Bhutto explained that Pakistan was expressing its deep concern towards the exodus of Soviet Jews and that it had debated this matter which constituted a serious threat to the cause of the Palestine Arab people "I condemned such exodus and I consider it a conspiracy against the Palestinian people."

And on the aim of its current tour, she said "the aim of this visit is to inform the leaders of the Arab homeland on what is happening in the south of the Asian continent."

Accompanying Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan is a delegation which includes Ha'ji Zafar Khafi Leghara the minister for railways, Ghulam Surur Cheema the minister of state for defence and a number of technicians and specialists of the Pakistani Government.

Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi

LD2105133790 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpt] The brother leader of the revolution received this afternoon sister Benazir Bhutto, prime minister of sister Pakistan. The brother secretary of the general people's committee and a number of the members of the delegation accompanying [Bhutto] attended the meeting. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Officers Sentenced for Coup Attempt Involvement

EA2105141690 Khartoum SUNA in English 0922 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Khartoum, 21 May (SUNA)—The field military courts yesterday issued the sentences against 24 officers involved in the abortive March 24 coup attempt. The sentences were approved by Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, who commuted the two death sentences to life imprisonment. The sentences are as follows:

1. Lieutenant Colonel Fortanto Longa:	Acquitted
2. Major General Muhammad Ali Hamid al-Tawm:	Execution by firing

	squad (commuted to life
	imprisonment).
3. Major (?Police) Jamal al-Tayyib:	Execution by
	firing squad
	(commuted to life
	imprisonment).
4. Colonel (Abd al-Mun'im Al-Ashatif):	(?Life)
	imprisonment.
5. Colonel (Abd al-Rahman Abd al-Mut-talib):	10 years
	imprisonment.
6. Lt Col Isam Mahjub al-Mukhtar:	10 years
	imprisonment.
8. [as received] Col (rtd) Sayyid	
'Abd al-Karim:	10 years
	imprisonment.
7. Lt Col (pilot) (Adix Muhammad Abd	
al-Latiif):	10 years
	imprisonment.
9. Col Imon Lua:	Seven years
	imprisonment.
10. Col Al-Tayyib Abdullah Murad:	Five years
	imprisonment.
11. Col Ahmad Abd al-Rahim al-Ghali:	Five years
	imprisonment.
12. Col (rtd) Abd al-Fattah Kabbashi:	Five years
	imprisonment.
13. Lt Col (Att al-Mannan Sid Ahmad):	Five years
	imprisonment.
14. Lt Col (pilot) Taha Husayn Babikr:	Five years
	imprisonment.
15. Lt Col Mustafa Muhammad Salih:	Five-years
	imprisonment.
16. Major Isam Ibrahim Arbab:	Five years
	imprisonment.
17. Major Khalid al-Tawm al-Khidr:	Five years
	imprisonment.
18. Maj Abd al-Wahhab Ibrahim:	Five years
	imprisonment.
19. Capt Salah Abd al-Ghaffar:	Five years
	imprisonment.
20. Col (Uthman Usamah Abd al-Rahc)	Two years
	imprisonment.
21. Capt (Arif Muhammad Abu Zakir):	Two years
	imprisonment.
22. Ca't Usamah Ahmad al-Fakki:	Two years
	imprisonment.
23. Lt Col (rtd) Kamal Sa'id:	Two years
	imprisonment.
24. Col Abd al-Rahim Ali Babikr:	Dismissal from the
	Armed Forces.

Kuwait

Foreign Ministry Condemns Workers' 'Massacre'

LD2105113390 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Kuwait, 21 may (KUNA)—Kuwait today strongly condemned the fresh Israeli massacre of Palestinian workers, describing it as a hideous crime and urging the international community to ensure the international protection of the Palestinian people, and to assume its responsibility by putting pressure on Israel to join the efforts aimed at bringing about peace in the region.

In a statement to KUNA, a responsible source at the Foreign Ministry said that at a time when Arab and international efforts are intensified to bring about peace in the region, the Arab world was shaken by a hideous crime perpetrated by Zionist Israelis against Palestinian workers.

The source adds: This massacre adds to Israel's antipeace policy, which relies on savage repression to stop the intifadah, terrorize the Palestinians, and depopulate the occupied territories. Obviously, such acts committed by the Zionists will lead the region to a fresh cycle of violence.

The source further says: While strongly condemning this massacre perpetrated by Zionist extremists, and which recalls the horrors and practices of the Zionist gangs, Kuwait calls on the internatioal community and all those who defend human rights in the world to denounce this hideous crime, which contradicts the most elementary human rights, and to ensure international protection of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories. It also urges the international community to assume its responsibilities by putting pressure on Israel to join the efforts aimed at bringing about peace in the region.

PDRY

Government Takes Final Steps Toward Unification

Council Ratifies Constitution

AB2205065190 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpts] The Supreme People's Council today during its extraordinary session, chaired by brother Haydar Abu-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium, ratified the draft constitution of the Republic of Yemen and the decisions taken by the unified political leadership.

Earlier, at the start of the session, the council approved its agenda. It also approved the expansion of the quorum of the Presidium to be 17 members according to the constitution. Two members of the council have been added to the Presidium, brothers 'Ali Salim al-Bid and Salim Salih Muhammad. [passage omitted]

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid described the session as a historic one where the will of the Yemeni people reached completion by the reunification of territory and homeland within the framework of the blessed republic of Yemen. He clarified all who belong to the land of Yemen now feel the fulfillment of their dreams, happiness, and identity, and their affiliation, pride, and aspirations. [passage omitted]

Al-Bid Signs Army Withdrawal

EA2105214190 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] This evening at the premises of the Central Committee, brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, signed the plan for the withdrawal and movement of the Armed Forces' units from the economic and commercial capital of the unity state, Aden, to their new positions according to the agreement of the leadership of the Yemeni homeland.

Brother Colonel 'Umar 'Ali al-'Attas, Central Committee member and deputy chief of General Staff, and brother Colonel 'Ali Muhammad Salah, deputy chief of General Staff and member of the permanent committee, earlier submitted documents on stationing the Armed Forces' units in their new positions in the Yemeni homeland according to what had been agreed upon at the staff headquarters and the meetings of the joint military and security committee.

The following attended the signing ceremony: brothers Haydarah Masdus, Political Bureau member and Central Committee secretary; Brigadier Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, Political Bureau member and minister of defense; Brigadier Haytham Qasim Tahir, Political Bureau candidate member, first deputy minister of defense and chief of General Staff; Colonel Salih 'Ali Zunqul, Central Committee member and chief of military operations in the Ministry of Defense; and a number of Armed Forces officers.

Salih Arrives for Declaration

EA2105214690 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] This evening Brother Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, arrived by land in Aden, the economic and commercial capital of the unity state. He is accompanied by senior officials of the Consultative Assembly, government, the Advisory Council, the general and permanent committees, and ministers to attend the ceremonies to declare the birth of the Republic of Yemen tomorrow, Tuesday.

He was welcomed on arrival by brothers 'Ali Salim al-Bid, the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee; Salim Salih Muhammad, the assistant secretary general and secretary of the Central Committee; Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council; Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man

member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; members of the Political Bureau, the Central Committee, and ministers.

Salih Heads Presidential Council

JN2205090290 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0830 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] A joint meeting of the Consultative Council and the Supreme People's Council Presidium was conducted this morning at the headquarters of the Republic of Yemen Presidential Council in al-Tawwahi, Aden, Yemen's economic and commercial capital.

At the outset of this meeting, chaired by the most senior member, Shaykh Sinan Abu-Luhum, a proposed list of members of the Republic of Yemen Presidential Council was submitted and unanimously approved.

The members are: Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, 'Ali Salim al-Bid, al-Qadi 'Abd-al-Karim al-'Arashi, Salim Salih Muhammad, and 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani.

Later, the Presidential Council members took the constitutional oath in the presence of the members of the Consultative Council, the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and senior officials.

The Republic of Yemen Presidential Council then conducted its first meeting, during which brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdalah Salih was elected Council chairman and brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid vice chairman.

Qatar

Foreign Ministry Denounces 'Ugly Israeli Crime'

JN2105200790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1144 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Doha, 21 May (WAKH)—The State of Qatar today strongly condemned Israeli massacres against Palestinian citizens and called on the Security Council to work for the protection of the sons of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

A responsible source at the Qatari Foreign Ministry said his country strongly denounces yesterday's ugly Israeli crime against the Palestinian workers and the barbaric massacres that followed against citizens in the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank. Moreover, the source added his country expresses its condemnation and denunciation of this racist, brutal carnage which constitutes an outright violation of man's rights and adds a new chapter to Israel's terrorist, repressive practices against the Palestinian Arab people, designed to force them leave their homeland to enable Israel to seize these territories and settle more people in violation of principles of law and international norms.

The source asserted Israel's barbaric actions in the occupied Arab territories reveal anew its aggressive nature, sinister intentions, and imperialist expansionist schemes, which expose and contradict its false claims on its desire to establish peace in the region and coexist peacefully with the Arabs.

The source, furthermore, called on the world community in general and the two superpowers in particular not to be content with regretting the tragedies, injustice, and terrorism the Palestinian Arab individual is suffering, but to assert his right to its territory and homeland, and to take concrete measures to safeguard these rights as with any other individual.

The source also called on the Security Council to ensure protection of the unarmed Palestinian people in face of Israeli terrorism and suppression.

United Arab Emirates

Government Condemns 'Heinous' Israeli 'Massacre'

JN2105215890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 May (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has strongly condemned the brutal massacre committed by Israel against Palestinian workers, and considers it a link in the chain of the continuing series of criminal acts against the Palestinian people, which constitutes a violation of all international laws, norms and human rights.

A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has told WAM the UAE condemns this heinous crime and other crimes designed to serve Israel's policy aimed at expelling the Palestinian people from their land and undermining international efforts and endeavors to establish peace and stability in the region. The UAE, moreover, is confident these crimes will not stop the Palestinian people to pursue their struggle to realize their national legitimate rights.

The source urged the international community, especially the two superpowers, to pressure Israel to stop its crimes against the Palestinian people and enable them to exercise their legitimate rights and establish their independent state on their national soil.

The source asserted peace and stability in the Middle East only can be established by securing a just, comprehensive, and lasting solution to the Palestine question through convening an international peace conference.

Concluding his statement, the source called on the United Nations to take quick action to secure urgent, effective international protection for the Palestinian people against the organized Israeli terrorism.

Yemen Arab Republic

Reportage on Concluding Unification Measures

Salih Addresses Council

JN2105210090 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 May 90

[Address by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to special session of Consultative Council in Sanaa on 21 May—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

Brother chairman, members of the Consultative Council: I am glad to be here with senior officials in the state, government, the Armed Forces, and the Standing Committee, at the Consultative Council—this democratic, free forum—to assert the government has referred two key bills—the unity state's bill and the 27 Ramadan agreement— the historic Sanaa agreement of the unified Yemeni leadership to the esteemed council for it to assume its historic responsibilities on this day as the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council convenes in Aden to discuss the same issue and take the necessary constitutional measures.

It is a great and historic day. I entrust my brothers, fathers, and colleagues in the Consultative Council with this historic responsibility which, through the ratification of these two agreements, will pave the way for the proclamation of the Republic of Yemen tomorrow at 1200. [passage omitted]

Yesterday I was visiting the military units in the economic capital, Aden, to the political and historic capital, Sanaa. [sentence as heard] Yesterday, I was heartened to see officers and NCO's—who once had been in confrontation in opposite trenches—become joined in one camp, shouldering the responsibility for protecting the Yemen Republic. I request the brothers in the Consultative Council to assume this historic responsibility and to complete the constitutional measures.

I entrust you with the responsibility of building the Yemen Republic. I have nothing new to submit to you, but I only am putting you in the picture of these procedures. I wish the council every success. I will take my leave to go to Aden, and I will take with me all the officials. I invite the Consultative Council members to accompany me; the planes are ready for whoever wishes to take part in this historic event, because you are the source of authority and the decisionmakers. If you disagree with my going, I will come back to you, because you are the decisionmakers. If the council says there is no unity, I will go back on my decision. You are the decisionmakers. No one competes with you; and no one will interfere in your duties. I wholeheartedly wish you success.

Council Approves Unification

JN2105160890 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpts] At sessions today in Sanaa, the historic capital of the unity state, and Aden, the economic capital, the Consultative Council and the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council [PSPC] ratified by overwhelming majorities the agreement of the political leadership of the Yemeni homeland, proclaiming the Yemen Republic and organizing the transitional period—the draft constitution of the Yemen Republic.

The Consultative Council issued a statement ratifying the agreement. At a session this morning, the PSPC also ratified the agreement and decreed that its membership be raised to 17 in accordance with the constitution. Brothers 'Ali Salim al-Bid and Salim Salih Muhammad have thus joined the PSPC.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid then gave a speech reviewing the progress of unionist action. [passage omitted]

Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih had attended the special session held by the Consultative Council this morning to discuss and ratify the constitution of the unity state.

Addressing the council, President Salih said he was happy to be attending the session, along with senior state and Army officers and the Standing Committee, so the council could assume its historic responsibilities at the same time the PSPC was meeting in Aden to discuss the same issue and take the necessary constitutional measures. The president said that with the agreement ratified, the proclamation of the Yemen Republic is to be read tomorrow at 1200, when flags of the Yemen Republic are to fly over all government corporations and departments and our country's embassies.

He emphasized that, in actual fact, this agreement is to organize the interim period. He said that despite the articles enshrined in the 27 Ramadan agreement, which also were incorporated in the draft constitution, in the interest of the public good and a speedier proclamation of the unity, the agreement contained some provisional articles of the unity state draft constitution to avoid confusion or misunderstandings. There is no difference between the agreement and the draft constitution. All these measures are meant to hasten the proclamation of the Yemeni state and to end the division of the homeland, so the Yemeni family can join together in one leadership and in united institutions so all resources and energies are pooled.

Armies 'Have Become One'

JN2105130990 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] North and South Yemen are moving forward toward unity with steady steps. In a major step toward this unity, North Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih

has announced the merger of the two Yemeni armies. Addressing South Yemeni units, which arrived yesterday at the outskirts of Sanaa, President Salih stated that as of now, the two armies have become one. Moreover, North Yemeni units have arrived on the outskirts of Aden, the capital of North Yemen.

The moves initiated by these forces were decided on 12 May during the Yemeni summit which was held in Ta'izz in North Yemen. London- based AL-HAYAH has said President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih might arrive in Aden today in the afternoon to participate in the ceremonies of the official declaration of Yemeni unity within the next 24 hours, after the approval of the two legislative authorities in Aden and Sanaa.

An official source in Sanaa today announced that the unified Yemeni republic will be declared officially tomorrow, Tuesday, in the afternoon.

Iraq's UK Embassy Receives Package of 'Triggers'

JN2105203690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1835 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] London, 21 May (INA)—The Iraqi Embassy in London today exposed a new attempt to implicate Iraq in an electronic capacitors case similar to the one that took place on 18 March.

In a press release issued today, the embassy explained that last week, it received through the ordinary mail a package containing electronic devices marked "nuclear triggers."

The statement said that out of its understanding of the evil intentions by certain quarters to implicate Iraq, tarnish its reputation, and create the appropriate justifications to cover up for a Zionist aggression against Iraq, the embassy has decided to hand over the package and its contents to the British Foreign Office and to inform it of all matters related to the case and draw its attention to the intentions behind these attempts, particularly to tarnish Iraq's reputation and harm Iraqi-British relations.

In a memo addressed to the British Foreign Office regarding this, the embassy stressed Iraq does not need such devices and has enough weapons for self-defense. It also stressed Iraq emphasizes its policy to possess technological and scientific equipment through legal channels to cover its needs and the needs of the Arab nation.

The release added: Iraq believes Arabs must be given a fair opportunity to fulfill their role in the service of (?humanity) and its desire to achieve peace and prosperity.

The release explained that by exposing this case to public opinion and the mass media, the Iraqi Embassy aims to stress Iraq's policy of not allowing any party to intervene in issues related to nuclear weapons and its emphasis of the fact Iraq does not possess and has no intention of possessing such weapons.

The release said the weapons available in Iraq are enough to protect its security, independence, territorial integrity, and the achievements of its revolution.

The Iraqi Embassy reiterated its belief the latest attempt is designed to continue the campaign being launched against Iraq over the alleged giant gun and the nuclear triggers.

Package Turned Over to Official

JN2105204190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] London, 21 May (INA)—A British Foreign Office press spokesman today confirmed having received a package sent by ordinary mail to the Iraqi Embassy in London containing electronic devices marked as nuclear triggers.

The spokesman told the INA office in London by telephone that William Roger Tomkys, British Foreign Office [deputy] under secretary, received Zuhayr Ibrahim, the second official in charge at the Iraqi Embassy, for half an hour and took possession of the package and its contents. The spokesman explained the package contained 28 trigger devices, 20 of which are of the same type, while the remaining eight are of a different type.

Saddam Phones Yemeni Leaders, New 'President'

JN2205080990 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0733 GMT 22 May

[Text] In a telephone contact initiated by leader President Saddam Husayn with Aden at 1045 today, his excellency conversed with his brothers President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, 'Ali Salim al-Bid, and Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas. During the conversation, his brothers informed him the two legislative councils in Yemen have elected a unified presidential council, and that President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has become president of the new Yemen.

Leader President Saddam Husayn congratulated his brothers President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, 'Ali Salim al-Bid, and Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas on this great historic unionist action, which will have positive impact reaching far beyond Yemen to include the entire nation, and whose unionist significance will contribute, along with other elements, to awakening the pan-Arab unionist ideology in general, and encourage other unionist steps that are as sincere and resolute as the Yemeni unity.

Leader President Saddam Husayn stressed that Iraq—people, leadership, and official institutions—stands at the side of his brothers in Yemen and their blessed unity, and supports their noble efforts with all available means.

Daily Newspapers React to 'Zionist Massacre'

JN2105171590 Baghdad INA in English 1000 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, May 21, INA—Iraqi dailies, issued here today, heavily denounced the yesterday's vicious Zionist massacre perpetrated in occupied Palestine by Zionist troops against more than 500 Palestinian victims.

In their front-paged editorials, the papers underlined that the brutal crime entirely unveiled the Zionist aggressive policy based on annihilation, killing, torture and non-respect of simplest prerequisites of human rights. They demanded Arab leaders, during their Baghdad May 28 extraordinary summit, to shoulder a doubled responsibility to firmly counter the Zionist aggressiveness and provide all requirements of resistance and steadfastness and all forms of political and material support to the intifadah.

AL-THAWRAH daily said the Zionist savage atrocity, once again, revealed the hostile and criminal nature of the Zionist entity and confirmed its disregard to all human norms and charters. This massacre adds to the Zionist entity's record a new crime condemned by all international community, it indicated.

The daily pointed out that the terrible act proved the Zionist entity's inability to cope with or curb the Palestinian uprising being in pursuit for 30 months in defiance of all oppressive and criminal practices conducted by the occupation forces.

AL-THAWRAH went on to say that the massacre was intended to terrify and terrorise the Palestinian people who had broken the barrier of fear since they launched their intifadah. It emphasized that the Zionist entity would be greatly deluded had it thought the crime could frighten the Palestinians or block their sweeping uprising.

The paper signalled the timing of the act executed a week ahead of the Baghdad extraordinary Arab summit, saying it would shoulder the Arab leaders extra responsibility to strongly repulse the Zionist aggressiveness and make available all forms of backing the intifadah.

It demanded to press the United States to recognize the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination, return to land and independence.

AL-THAWRAH accused the U.S. for being responsible for incessant Zionist criminal and suppressive measures in the occupied Arab lands through its obvious and open bias to the Zionist entity and via its policies, stances and decisions encouraging the entity for further intransigence, oppression, repression and drowning in state terrorism and daily abuses of the Palestinian people's legitimate and inalienable rights.

It demanded the international community for swift and serious move to protect the Palestinian people from the Zionist occupation and crimes and to impose deterrent sanctions on the Zionist entity motivated by its repeated atrocities and violations of U.N. legal resolutions.

Another daily, AL-JUMHURIYAH, mentioned that the Zionist bloody crime had come to reiterate intentions of the aggression and murder deeply rooted in the Zionists and increasingly feeded by unlimited American aid.

In its editorial, the paper expressed wonder over suspicious silence that tightened the tongues of those crying human rights in both Washington and London, the attitude that largely confirmed their notorious and obvious alignment with the murderers.

It made it clear that Zionist military preparations that preceded the massacre assured that it was premeditated and had come to stress persistance of the Zionists on their U.S.-backed criminal approach.

"Human rights advocates in Washington, London and some Western capitals are constituting, by their obvious support and revealed bias, a backing factor in order that the Zionist entity escalates its crimes with much bloodshed," AL-JUMHURIYAH underscored.

Again, the daily put emphasis on the necessity that the international community move quickly to save the Palestinian people from the Zionist atrocities, such a move that would not be accreditable, unless it was combined with world punishments.

It also demanded that the Arab countries support the Palestinian uprising with all means that guarantee its continuity and step-up in order that it takes its full scope in lay foundations of a free and independent Palestinian state. They are also urged to work a unified and comprehensive strategy to counter ongoing Zionist aggressive threats against the Arabs.

AL-QADISIYAH daily, organ of the Defence Ministry, underlined that the yesterday's Zionist crime, perpetrated in occupied lands, opened before the world a complete record of vicious Zionist terrorism and put the international community before its responsibilites to pass a sound decision in condemnation of the crime and to face the Zionist aggressive approach.

The new crime, being in complementary of repeated ones, like Dayr Yasin and Bahr al-Baqar massacres, sheds light on perseverance of the Zionists on their criminal conduct, the paper said. It cautioned that the the present Zionist atrocity signalled potential critical dangers against the Arab countries, especially Iraq who insisted on attaining technological and scientific development.

The daily lashed out at the so-called human rights supporters in Britain and the United States for turning a blind eye to the massacre and keeping silent versus it.

AL-'IRAQ newspaper warned the international community that the Zionist entity was using all modern torturing forms against the Palestinians, through employing internationally-banned new weapons against civilians. It stressed that the entity would fall short of blocking the stepped-up Palestinian intifadah, for the Palestinian people, who had been fighting with stones, had won world support to their just cause, legal struggle and independent state.

It went on saying that the fresh crime put the Arab nation vis-a-vis one option, that is, countering anti-Arab Zionist threats and perils with all legitimate means and capabilities in defence of Arab legitimacy.

Demonstration Near U.S. Consulate Dispersed

TA2205103890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] A short time ago, police dispersed a demonstration near the YMCA building in East Jerusalem. Some 200 Arabs had gathered to take part, including Knesset Members 'Abd al-Wahab Darawshah and Husayn Faris, Palestinian leader Sari Nusaybah, and the deputy mufti of Jerusalem.

A Voice of Israel reporter says police used force to disperse the participants. They had begun marching with black flags and banners in the direction of the U.S. Consulate nearby. The district police commander, who was on the spot, ordered that the procession be dispersed. Tear gas was used and a number of those taking part were arrested. Our reporter says before the dispersal order was given, one of the demonstrators struck a police officer in the face.

[A telephone update by correspondent Mark Weiss later in the same newscast adds that the demonstration near the U.S. Consulate building "was dispersed by police and border police, some on horseback, using tear gas and batons. Later the protesters regrouped and were again dispersed by police. Police arrested four local residents. So far, there are no reports of injuries. At the moment, a large number of police remain on hand, and a small demonstration by Arab women in front of the East Jerusalem YMCA building is taking place." Weiss continues: "One resident here just told me that one person was injured in this morning's demonstration, but this still has to be confirmed by the police."]

A firebomb was thrown this morning into an apartment in the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City. The bottle ignited, causing damage.

A Jerusalem-bound train was brought to a sudden halt by the engine driver this morning, when he spotted a stone barrier across the tracks near the village of Battir. It was cleared by railway men and border policemen in the area. The train moved on to Jerusalem.

Violence, Reaction in Wake of Shooting Incident

3 Dead, 14 Wounded in Gaza

TA2105143490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] A check by military sources has revealed that the body of 16-year-old Manal al-Dar'i was brought to al-Shifa' Hospital in Gaza. The body was snatched by the girl's family and she was buried. The Israeli army is looking into the circumstances of her death.

The military sources also told our correspondent Arye Gus that they know about another fatality in Rafah. The body was also snatched in this case. The army is looking into the circumstances of his death.

The army also knows about a 55-year-old woman from Khan Yunus who was dead when brought to the hospital. The circumstances of her death remain unclear.

Based on reports from local hospitals, military sources reported 14 casualties in the Gaza Strip, but local Arabs report a far higher number of casualties. Three soldiers were wounded in stone-throwing incidents today, but two of them have already been released.

Army Reinforcements Rushed

TA2105163390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has set up two temporary commands and rushed reinforcements—regular army soldiers—to the Gaza Strip to control the area. The commands will be headed by Colonel Menahem Meron, who used to be the commander of the area.

A senior military source said today that all terror organizations have issued instructions to their men to escalate violence and to move on to serious—or, as he phrased it, hot—attacks in the territories and within the Green Line. Similar instructions have also been issued to Fatah men, the source said. The organizations' purpose is to put the intifadah back in the headlines.

The senior source disclosed that security inmates at Qezi'ot are staging a hunger strike as a token of solidarity with their brethren in the territories. Troops have been reinforced in prisons and in Jewish settlements. At this point, the IDF is using helicopters to assist Israeli Police.

Our correspondents Karmela Menashe and Arye Gus quote military sources as saying that 40 people have been wounded and three killed in the Gaza Strip today. The circumstances of their deaths are being examined.

Milo Sums Up Knesset Debate

TA2105175690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Summing up the Knesset debate concerning the murder yesterday in Rishon Leziyyon, Minister Roni Milo said that rather than anything in the prevailing atmosphere in the country or in Israel's policy, it was the criminal whims of an individual which led to this terrible tragedy. Peace will be attained through dialogue rather than through incitement and disturbances that cause bodily harm. On behalf of the government, Minister Milo called on the inhabitants of the territories to behave with restraint so they may lead normal lives.

Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that the Knesset plenum thus completed its debate on 17 motions to the agenda which were submitted by all factions of the house.

Riots in Triangle, Nazareth

TA2105201190

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1730 GMT on 21 May reports that "at nearly 1900 this evening, a 21-year-old resident of the village of Bayt Hanina in northeast Jerusalem was found with a bullet in his chest. The circumstances of the incident in which he was wounded are not yet clear." It was further reported that "as with other parts of East Jerusalem, riots took place in this village over the course of the day." The report adds that "the Sharon subdistrict police detained a total of five rioters in the course of riots in the Arab Triangle today. The police are continuing to take care to keep central traffic axes open to traffic. Moods calmed down in the Triangle this evening." It was also reported that "the Yafo Muslim Council declared a period of mourning as a gesture of solidarity with the families of those murdered in Rishon Leziyyon yesterday. The council condemned the murder, and called on the government to denounce this crime as well as the unrestrained announcements in Israel and in the territories."

Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 21 May reports that "riots lasted in Nazareth the whole day today and subsided only in the evening. Seven policemen were injured by stones, two buildings were burned down, and 15 people were detained, including the wife of the Nazareth mayor."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1900 GMT on 21 May reports that "riots by Arabs took place in Lod this evening, and the local police commander was injured in his hand. He was transferred to the hospital for treatment. The rioters set a parked truck on fire. Our correspondent Yisra'el Peretz reports that additional police forces were rushed to the scene and managed to disperse the rioters. Some of the rioters were detained, and calm has been restored to Lod."

Arens on U.S., Arab Reaction

TA2105195390 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 May 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by Hayim Yavin in the Tel Aviv studio—live]

[Text] [Yavin] Harsh criticism has been leveled at Israel in the wake of the incidents which have taken place over the last two days. We would like to hear from Foreign Minister Moshe Arens about how Israel is preparing to explain its present stance. Good evening to you, Mr. Foreign Minister, in our Tel Aviv studio.

[Arens] Good evening.

[Yavin] It seems that we first need your reaction to the very strong attacks from both inside and outside the country, including Washington, on the policy which Israel has adopted over the last two days within Israel and the territories. What is your comment, Mr. Foreign Minister?

[Arens] I think that those in the United States who do not seek an excuse to attack Israel understand very well the background for the terrible incident which happened yesterday on the Rishon Leziyyon road. It is precisely in the United States, of all places, that a person committing such an insane act, going out into the street and shooting people, has happened very often. The United States knows that the Israeli Government has nothing whatsoever to do with this act. They know that the criminal was caught, and that he will be tried and punished. Therefore, those who try to attack Israel for this incident—be it intentionally or unintentionally—are acting cynically with regard to a tragic event. With these attacks they neither ease the situation, nor calm down tempers, but rather the contrary.

[Yavin] Mr. Arens, the counterargument is that in the history of the world many madmen have set the spark for war. What we see in the streets—both within the Green Line boundaries and the territories—is reminiscent of the worst days of the intifadah. What is your reaction to this?

[Arens] The moment we saw that horrendous scene on the Rishon Leziyyon road, where seven Arabs were murdered and others were wounded, we knew that this would immediately become a test for the Arab population, both in Israel and in the territories, and for their leaders. A test for them to act to calm tempers and not incite people into additional deeds of violence. Not all of them passed this test. I heard the speech by the instigator from Umm-al-Fahm today. It was clear that he was not trying to calm moods down, but rather to incite additional violence. We all regret to see that the number of victims following the Rishon Leziyyon murder has been larger today than the number of victims in Rishon Leziyyon itself.

[Yavin] Mr. Arens, you say this is a test. Is it not a test for the Israeli leaders too? Do you personally, and perhaps also the Likud, have second thoughts regarding the pace of the political process? Do you not think that one of the possible solutions is to speed up the political process a little, and accordingly set up a government which will act to accelerate this process?

[Arens] I assume that anyone who thinks about what happened in a responsible manner knows and understands that there is no link whatsoever between the Israeli Government, its operation and policy, and this criminal act which was perpetrated by this insane person. This could have also happened under different conditions, under a different policy, and during the term of a different Israeli Government. There is no link whatsoever. Forming such a nonexistent link is dangerous, and surely does not contribute to a calmer situation.

[Yavin] Mr. Foreign Minister, thank you for coming to our studio.

Territory Deaths Up to Five

TA2205064090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 22 May 90

[Excerpts] The number of deaths in the territories in the last 24 hours has gone up to four, this following the reported death of a 55-year-old Gaza resident, Rasmiyya 'Ali 'Attiya. The army is investigating the circumstances surrounding his death. [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 22 May in a pool report on pages A1 and 7 quotes "Arab sources" as reporting "151 casualties in the Gaza Strip and 15 in the West Bank" in yesterday's incidents.]

Also in Rafah, an Arab resident was seriously hurt in clashes with soldiers and was hospitalized in Tel Hashomer. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 22 May reports that Naji Abu-Saqallah died last night at Tel Hashomer Hospital.] The curfew on the Gaza Strip goes into its second day today.

There were disturbances in several locations in Judaea and Samaria last night. Soldiers used rubber and plastic bullets to disperse rioters in Hebron. There were more stone-throwing incidents on Galilee roads last night and an attempt to set alight a bank in Nazareth. There are, however, reports that workers are coming to work in the areas. [passage omitted]

In Rishon Leziyyon's industrial zone, a hostel for workers from the territories was set alight. Nobody was inside.

On the Shu'fat road in north Jerusalem, a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a military vehicle. It exploded on the road, but caused no damage or injuries. In the village of Jabal al-Mukabar, southeast of Jerusalem, two residents were hurt. Border Police used rubber bullets and tear gas to break up a riot.

Near Zikhron Ya'aqov on the Haifa-Tel Aviv road, the driver of a private car was hurt when the windshield was smashed by a rock. The man's face was lacerated by the glass, and he was taken for treatment to hospital in Hadera.

Moledet Not To Support Narrow Likud Government

TA2105133790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Knesset Member Rehav'am Ze'evi, head of Moledet, has said that the breakup of negotiations with the Likud means that his party will not support a narrow government led by the Likud. Interviewed by our correspondent Yo'el Nir, Ze'evi stressed he would not support a narrow Likud government even from outside the government because of the Likud's disdainful attitude toward him and his demands.

Diplomat Warns of Erosion of U.S. Support

TA2205102090 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 May 90 p A1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] A long and harshly worded secret cable, drafted by a senior Israeli diplomat in Washington who is considered a staunch advocate of right-wing positions, points to deep erosion in the U.S. Congress' support for Israel, to the point where it has lost its sensitivity to Israel's security needs and its motivation to support the expansion of bilateral strategic cooperation, and has increased its advocacy of a Palestinian state.

In his cable, Yoram Ettinger—the embassy's liaison with Congress and a confidant of Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and his deputy Binyamin Netanyahu, and the man who used to send soothing cables to Jerusalem—warns the Israeli Government not to push its luck.

Ettinger's cable follows a long series of reports by Israeli Embassy personnel in Washington which led to feverish debates in the Foreign Ministry in a bid to curb the erosion in U.S.-Israeli relations.

In his cable, Ettinger points out that all congressmen hold Israel in contempt and that many of them view the complex political situation in Israel as an excuse for thwarting the peace process. They claim that Israel's policy on settlements and on South Africa is unnecessarily provocative, and they do not believe that Israel still stands behind the political process. According to Ettinger, the Christian Quarter hospice affair added fuel to the fire and provided Republicans and Democrats, and even Israel's staunchest friends, with a common denominator in their unprecedented criticism of Israel.

Ettinger points out that U.S. Jewry is joining the wave of criticism. According to congressmen, American Jews no longer approach them as they did in the past, whereas the Arabs and their supporters on Capitol Hill are growing stronger.

The senior attache stresses in his cable that the administration believes the erosion in support from Congress, the Jewish community, and the media has paved the way for an anti-Israeli offensive.

Agreement With Greece on Diplomatic Relations

TA2105153890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Foreign Ministry spokesman Yosef 'Amihud has said that Israel and Greece today signed an agreement on the establishment of full diplomatic bilateral relations. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that the agreement on the establishment of relations was signed by Foreign Ministry Director General Re'uven Merhav in Brussels.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens welcomed the chance opened for the enhancing and strengthening of relations between Greece and Israel. Minister Arens said he hoped that as part of the new relationship between the two countries Greece would help promote direct negotiations on peace in the Middle East.

Rishon Leziyyon Killings Prompt Demonstrations

Protestors Head for U.S. Embassy

JN2105174090 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 21 may 90

[Excerpt] Our Amman correspondent, Randah Habib, has sent us the following report on the circumstances of the attack against the French tourists in Amman today and on King Husayn's statement on the incident:

[Begin Habib recording] [passage omitted] Thousands of persons demonstrated in the streets of Amman this evening. They flocked from the al-Wahdat, al-Husayn, and the Schneller refugee camps, raising black flags and the flags of Palestine, and condemning the Rishon Leziyyon massacre. They shouted slogans against Israel and in support for the intifadah. The Jordanian security forces did not intervene to prevent the marchers from demonstrating. The demonstrators forced merchants to close their shops in mourning for the Palestinian martyrs. [end recording]

In addition to this, the demonstrators proceeded to the Marriott Hotel in Amman, pelted it with stones, and brought down the flags hoisted on it and replaced them with Palestinian flags. The demonstrators then left for the U.S. Embassy in the Jordanian capital.

Security Forces Intervene

JN2205052690 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] A responsible source at the Ministry of the Interior has said that marches and demonstrations were staged in various parts of Amman and the al-Baq'ah area yesterday to express public anger and condemnation of the heinous crime perpetrated by the Israeli authorities in the occupied Arab territories on Sunday [20 May].

The source added: All the marches that took place in Amman dispersed without doing any damage and without interference by the security men, thanks to the cooperation of the organizers of the marches. The exception concerns a single demonstration originating from the Professional Associations Complex in Amman. This demonstration split into groups, one of which attacked vehicles, buildings, and a hotel in the al-Shumaysani area. This forced security men to use force to disperse the group. However, there were no injuries.

Yesterday evening, security men forcefully prevented a group of demonstrators in the al-Baq'ah area from heading toward Amman. Two persons were slightly injured in the incident.

The Ministry of the Interior deeply regrets that the expression of solidarity with the people in the occupied territories to protest and denounce the horrendous Israeli crime has resulted in lawlessness and violation of public order at a time when all citizens are given the chance to express their views calmly and peacefully. The Ministry affirms that the security authorities will deal firmly with all those who push these marches to deviate from their noble objectives through the decisive and vigorous enforcement of the law.

Protesters, Security Forces Clash

JN2205063090 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 May 90 pp 1, 5

[By Sana' 'Atiyah, "special to the JORDAN TIMES"]

[Text] Amman—Thousands of angry people took to the streets Monday night after a rally at the Professional Associations Complex (PAC) and attempted to reach the United States embassy in protest against American support for Israel, but the crowd failed to reach their destination after security men used force to disperse them.

Other groups of demonstrators came from different areas in Amman, also attempting to reach the American embassy. One group stopped at the Marriott Hotel in al-Shumaysani and broke its outside windows and left before the riot police arrived. Some of the members of the group proceeded to the al-Shumaysani junction and clashes occurred near the Manar Hotel and the 'Ata 'Ali corner, a senior police source told the Jordan Times, but he said no arrests were made. Police used baton to disperse the crowd, eyewitnesses said.

According to some accounts of the Marriott incident, the group that was involved came to the area after the PAC rally, but other reports said the group was from the al-Husayn refugee camp. No independent confirmation was immediately available.

The police source said people were burning tyres at the al-Husayn camp late into the night.

According the same source, four people were wounded near the al- Baq'ah camp in an incident involving policemen and some unidentified elements who opened fire on security forces who [were] trying to remove a blockade on the main road between Amman and Jerash. "The policemen returned fire, and four people were wounded," the source told the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

Demonstrations were also reported in the Gaza camp near Jerash and the Schneller camp at al-Rusayfah. No violent incidents were reported.

The demonstrators who were at the PAC in Amman defied calls from deputies and union leaders not to head towards the embassy and clashed with riot police who used tear-gas and batons in separate attempts to disperse the demonstrators.

In a statement broadcast on Jordan Television, the Ministry of Interior said that those who abuse the freedom to express "their anger would not be tolerated, especially when their actions do not conform with the law."

"The ministry expresses deep regret that feelings of solidarity with the Palestinian people could turn into outlawless at a time when all citizens have the right to express their feelings [and] opinions quietly and orderly," the statement said.

"The ministry would like to stress that security forces will not be lenient with whoever tries to divert the purpose of public protests from their noble causes," it added.

Special security police blocked off all roads leading to the American embassy near Jabal Amman's Third Circle as the demonstrators chanted anti-Israeli and anti-American slogans and carried black flags, mourning the death of Palestinians who were killed by Israelis Sunday. Riot police were seen outside the major hotels in the capital in case other violent attempts were made against them.

The Interior Ministry statement said several demonstrations took place around the country, and they all ended peacefully except for the violence that marred a march in al-Baq'ah refugee camp Monday evening.

Refugees March, Strike

JN2205063790 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 May 90 p 3

[By Sana' 'Atiyah, "special to the JORDAN TIMES"]

[Text] Amman—The largest Palestinian refugee camp in the Kingdom observed a general strike Monday as black flags were hoisted on top of buildings and thousands demonstrated in three separate peaceful marches throughout the day in protest against the killings of Palestinians Sunday and in solidarity with the intifada.

The black flags fluttered from the tops of the tin-roofed shacks and mosques as all business and professional offices closed for the day in the al-Baq'ah refugee camp, 20 kilometres northwest of Amman. In the early hours of the morning about 25,000 people gathered in a spontaneous march protesting the massacre without the interference of the security forces, according to 'Abdallah Abu-Farhan, member of the popular committee of the camp and an organiser of the March. He said that the schools also closed for the day as the students left the classrooms to join the march.

"For the first time in the history of the al-Baq'ah camp, a march has been totally successful as no one tried to instigate trouble and the security forces did not interfere in any way," Abu-Farhan told the Jordan Times, adding that participants were careful not to go outside the camp.

The camp, where nearly 70,000 refugees reside, has a history of clashes with the security forces that erupted whenever a demonstration took place in the past.

The organisers of yesterday's march denied reports that there were serious clashes between the people and the police. The reports were that the demonstration reached Suwaylih, four kilometres from al-Baq'ah, and that there were serious clashes between the camp residents and the police.

The Jordan Times did not witness such clashes, and in fact, the demonstration did remain within the perimeter of the camp.

"Some individuals tried to go outside, but the protestors generally confined themselves to the perimeter of the camp," Abu-Farhan said, adding that there was agreement to keep the march peaceful and organised, although it was a spontaneous one.

According to another member of the popular committee of the camp, George Haddad, the security forces "helped the march succeed because of their non-interference in the march." He told the Jordan Times that "despite the big numbers that turned out for the march there was awareness among the people not to become violent and turn a demonstration into a riot."

He also attributed the success of the march to the large participation of women and girls and "for the first time the slogans supported national unity and did not in any way hurt anyone."

"And this is the first time there was positive reaction to our call for a general strike where every sector, including banks, closed down for the day," Abu-Farhan said.

On the night of the massacre that took place Sunday, the organisers, members of leftist and nationalist groups, announced through microphones that a peaceful and silent march mourning the Palestinian martyrs would take place in the camp at 4:30 in the afternoon; but by 6:30 a.m., "thousands of people had already gathered in the camp square prepared to march."

The afternoon march was smaller than the earlier one, according to some accounts. In it people joined the demonstration which lasted for nearly three-hours and by the end of the march people gathered in the camp square to hear speeches by the Popular Committee for the Support of the Intifada.

Black flags, black banners (with no message) and Palestinian flags were held up by the demonstrators who chanted pro-Palestinian and anti-Israeli and anti-American slogans.

Woman covered their heads with black and white chequered kuffiyas [headdresses] and children wore dresses and shirts in the colours of the Palestinian flag. Some women cried as they sang songs for the Palestinian martyrs in the occupied territories. Children posed in front of the cameras of the press flashing victory signs.

"Write down that the Palestinian people are rising," a 10-year-old girl said to a reporter.

Abu-Farhan said that another smaller-scale march took place Sunday night after the "isha" (evening) prayers and lasted for three hours. He said that the march ended peacefully.

The Muslim Brotherhood did not participate in any of these demonstrations, but called for another march after noon prayers Monday. Witnesses said it gathered a few thousand people, but the Jordan Times could not obtain an accurate figure.

Late reports reaching the Jordan Times said that after the march and rally ended, "a small group of people left the camp to the main road and caused a riot. Despite our persistent efforts to prevent them," Abu-Farhan said, "the group threw stones and burned tyres, causing the security men to over-react."

Television news reported that two people were wounded as a result of the clash "when (the small group of people) tried to march towards Amman and cause trouble."

But the security forces reacted by using tear-gas and fired warning shots in an effort to end the riots, resulting in the two injuried that were reported.

French Embassy Issues Statement on Bus Attack

JN2105140090 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 May 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Minister of Tourism 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti today visited the injured French tourists hospitalized at the King Husayn Medical Center and received a briefing on their condition. The minister expressed satisfaction with their condition and stressed that there is no danger to any of them. He also voiced his deep regret for the incident, which he described as an isolated individual act.

The French Embassy in Amman today issued a statement expressing thanks and appreciation to the Jordanian authorities for their full cooperation following the regrettable incident in Amman today.

The statement said the French consul immediately visited the injured. It also said the French Embassy is in close contact with Jordanian authorities, who have shown every courtesy, and is also in constant touch with the tour guides.

The statement explained that the group of tourists was visiting the Royal Amphitheater in Amman center when they were attacked by a man carrying a gun. He opened fire in their direction, wounding nine people—seven of them superficially and two gravely. However, they are not in critical condition.

Bus Attacker Undergoing Medical Tests for Drugs

JN2205114290 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Amman, 22 May (PETRA)—Tourism Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti has affirmed that the incident involving a French tourist group is a tragedy. He said that it is an isolated incident that will not affect Jordanian tourism, which has recently begun to flourish, making it a basic pillar of the Jordanian economy.

In press statements yesterday, he said that this incident was perpetrated by an irresponsible person who might have been under the influence of drugs. He said that the competent authorities are conducting medical tests for signs of drugs in the person's body.

The minister added that it is impossible to isolate this regrettable incident from the anger that has swept citizens in the wake of yesterday's massacre of Arab workers by an Israeli soldier.

Al-Qasim Denounces Tel Aviv, Amman Attacks

JN2105163590 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today summoned the ambassadors of the United States, the United Kingdom, France, China, and the USSR charge d'affaires in Amman. He informed them of Jordan's strong denouncement and condemnation of the appalling racist crime perpetrated by an Israeli terrorist against defenseless Palestinian laborers near Tel Aviv yesterday morning. He asked them to inform their governments of Jordan's view on the need for the five countries to assume their responsibilities in accordance with the UN charter in their capacity as Security Council permanent member states responsible for maintaining international peace and security.

He said the crime should be viewed as a link in the chain of the racist Israeli acts, which Israel tries to portray as separate acts committed by lunatics. The fact, he added, is that these acts are an expression of the extreme racist slogans promoted by Israeli leaders to expel the Palestinians from their lands.

Al-Qasim told the French ambassador that Jordan denounces the heinous attack against the group of French tourists in Amman this morning. He said Jordan regrets the incident, which harms the Jordanian people and violates their values and strong traditions of according hospitality to their guests and protecting them from any harm.

Editorials Condemn Killings, Criticize Israel

'Racist, Zionist Madness'

JN2105144390 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 May 90 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Racist, Zionist Madness"]

[Text] Yesterday, Israel's full, spiteful image was most visible when Zionist soldiers checked the identity cards of Arab workers before killing, in cold blood, a number of those workers whose only fault was that they were different from the distinguished Jewish breed.

Israel was not satisfied with this ugly racist crime, but allowed its soldiers, armed with rancor and hatred, to express their racism by committing more crimes against whomever expressed grief over a martyred father or brother, thus expanding the scope of the massacre and bringing it to the level of the long historical series of Israeli massacres.

Undoubtedly, what Israel did yesterday against the Palestinians throughout the occupied homeland was only the natural outcome of the growing Zionist fanatic extremism and the atmosphere of severe racist hatred that successive Israeli governments have persisted in spreading against all that is Arab. This made the committing of such a crime an inevitable result of the ethnic superiority on which those Zionists are fed.

Therefore, this appalling Zionist crime, which has taken place while the United States is in opposition to any attempt to condemn the settlement policy in the occupied territories, is the outcome of this policy, which continues to encourage Israel to persistently go beyond all limits in the occupation of others' land by force and to confiscate the most basic rights of the Palestinian people—a policy now culminating in utter Zionist madness.

We do not believe that the United States, which uses all its influence to facilitate the emigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine, can now turn a blind eye to the real meaning of this abhorrent crime, which is a premeditated operation to intimidate the Palestinians and force them to emigrate in order to empty the land of its lawful owners and accommodate more Jewish immigrants on the land of another people.

It is noteworthy that the Western states, especially the United States, received the news of the appalling massacre with almost complete silence, revealing the hypocrisy of the human rights slogans in these capitals which support Israel, charge it with racist craziness, and supply it with all means of killing, occupation, aggression, and expansion.

Viewing the new Zionist crime as an act that was carefully planned in order to abort the intifadah and to force the Palestinians to leave their homeland, we believe the timing of the crime, which coincides with the emergency Arab summit in Baghdad, serves as a new message of disregard expeditiously dispatched by Israel to Arab leaders, without taking into consideration any possible Arab anger.

In light of these developments, as we witness the occupied land being set ablaze under the feet of the Zionist invaders and the valiant intifadah being escalated to new heights, we urge the Arab nation—leaders, peoples, and governments—to work together in order to give the intifadah all the support it needs, including an effective Arab solidarity through the emergency Arab summit to bring Israel back to its senses and to respond to its excessive disregard for the Arabs' blood and rights, and above all, their wrath.

Bus Attack 'Deplorable'

JN2205065590 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Attack Against Tourists Condemnable Diversion"]

[Text] The incident in Amman yesterday, in which a gunman attacked French tourists wounding several of them along with a Jordanian photographer, has to be strongly condemned, first for what it is and then for whatever motive was behind it.

A crime is a crime, no matter what noble cause lies behind it. So the attack on Jordan's guests, other than being alien to our culture and tradition, is a deplorable act that cannot be possibly condoned by any sane human being. The probability that it was triggered by the assailant's feelings of anger and frustration at the massacre of Palestinians on Sunday does not lessen from its criminality one bit either. On the contrary, such an act, besides being the heinous crime it is, has diverted world attention from what is happening in Israel and the occupied territories, and as such it should be doubly condemned.

On the other hand, if the attack was aimed at tarnishing the image of Jordan as a safe country for friends and tourists to visit, or targetted at destablishing the Kingdom and endangering its security, then words of condemnation, no matter how strong, will not be enough. The fight has to be taken to the source and roots of aggression in that case.

In his statement to Jordan Television last night, His Majesty King Husayn expressed the belief that the motive behind the attack most probably lied in the feeling of fury that gripped the attacker at Amman's amphitheatre in the wake of Israeli genocidal acts against the Palestinians. Yes. But, even then, what purpose did the assailant's crime serve, other than the harm it has done to us and to the damage inflicted on the Palestinian cause as a whole?

Along with informing the rest of the world of Palestinian suffering, we have a duty to put our own house in order.

This is best done not by repressing our feelings of frustration and anger at whatever aggression Israel and the Israelis commit against our people in the occupied territories, but by translating those feelings into energy and actions capable of confronting enemy designs and practices.

We should do this for ourselves, but with a view to the world around us. This world has to be educated that violence breeds violence, and unless the international community moves in earnest to bring peace to this region, there will continue to be a growth of dangerous forces and factors that could create a mess much greater than the area has ever witnessed.

Israeli Violence Responsible

JN2205074490 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
22 May 90 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "Unity of Ranks in the Face of the Enemy"]

[Text] Yesterday's tourist bus incident can only be viewed as a condemnable act, as it runs counter to our people's traditions. Besides, it serves no interests other than those of the Israeli enemy, which yesterday attempted to exploit this regrettable incident to cover up for the horrific bloody massacre which it perpetrated against the Palestinian people.

We are fully confident, however, that our vigilant and conscientious citizens will foil this enemy's attempt to acquit itself of its dastardly crime and to divert attention from it. What is required right now is that citizens show the highest sense of responsibility, vigilance, and a committed and responsible sense of citizenship to help defend this steadfast homeland, which represents a forward post in the face of the Zionist conspiracy.

The turbulent climate which Israel has continued to create in the region is, in one way or another, to blame for such incidents, which in turn cannot be isolated from the deep feelings of indignation and anger in the hearts of Arabs inside and outside Palestine created by this massacre.

The best evidence of this is the demonstrations, strikes, and clashes with the Zionist troops in the towns and villages of the Triangle, Galilee, and Negev yesterday. This reveals the extent of the emotions and outrage of Arabs everywhere at this massacre.

Hence, we hold Israel, and all those who support it, fully responsible for the escalation and tension which is filling the region. Extremism on one side creates extremism on the other; and bloodshed causes further bloodshed. Moreover, the policy of organized killing adopted by the highest levels of responsibility in Israel will eventually breed nothing but a chain reaction of retaliation and vengeance.

The Israeli leaders, who have not heeded the repeated warnings of the dire consequences of continuing the official policy of killing and terrorism, have continued to overlook international values, charters, and norms. Thus, they defy public opinion and UN resolutions and consecrate their bloody course, which has continued since Israel's inception through its development.

As a matter of fact, the continuing Israeli terrorism would not have become so barbaric had it not been for the total U.S. political support and incomprehensible tolerance by Washington of Israel's racist and ugly crimes. The best proof of this is the recent U.S. State Department statement, which chose to ignore the political significance of the workers' massacre and which also chose not to refer to matters as they really are.

While condemning the killing of innocent victims of all nationalities everywhere, we urge those who are providing Israel with its lifeblood to protest its continuous and daily crimes against the unarmed Palestinian people and to act promptly to end this racist Israeli trend, which is pushing the Middle East, once again, to the brink of the abyss.

We understand the sadness and pain in the hearts of our people caused by the terrible Zionist massacre. We are also aware of the strong emotions of solidarity felt by the sons of this dear homeland for the heroes and people of the intifadah. In view of all this, we call on everyone to beware the machinations hatched by the enemy against this steadfast bastion. We must caution people to refrain from doing anything that might serve Israel's objectives and cover up for its crimes. We must show vigilance and maturity, and deal with the situation rationally, wisely, and with national discipline.

Al-Huss on Israeli 'Massacre,' Demonstrations

NC2105110490 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Commenting on the ugly massacre committed by the Israeli occupation forces in occupied Palestine, which resulted in the martyrdom of 26 persons and the wounding of more than 1,200 others, Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss said this morning: This is how Zionism challenges us and this is how we Arabs confront it. Zionism belittles us and confronts us with terrorism and bloodshed. We react by sowing differences, creating contradictions, and settling accounts among ourselves. He added: This terrible massacre may shake the world's conscience or it may not. The matter rests with the political decision of the forces who control the people's destinies. This is what we have learned from the lessons of the Palestinian and Lebanese tribulations. In other words, the conscience of the world is concerned less with human feelings than it is with political standing in the civilized world. At any rate, what is important is that this massacre should awaken the Arab conscience and remind us of the reality of the danger threatening our entity, existence, and fate as a result of the most ferocious aggression to which any nation has ever been subjected; that is, the Zionist aggression.

Prime Minister Dr al-Huss emphasized that the Palestinian intifadah itself remains the most eloquent and honorable reply to the barbaric aggression.

An large Palestinian demonstration began at the Burj al-Barajinah camp at 1000 this morning in response to the Palestinian National Salvation Front's call to denounce the massacre. The demonstrators burned tires and raised black banners and Palestinian flags over the roofs of buildings in the camp. Several Lebanese and Palestinian figures and leaders participated in the demonstration, which proceeded to the cemetery at the Burj al-Barajinah camp where speeches were made calling for escalating the struggle against the Israeli occupation, mobilizing all resources, and opening all Arab fronts to the honest Arab strugglers to join the unceasing intifadah in the occupied territory. The demonstrators then staged a sit-in at the Falastin mosque.

Schools and shops in camps close to the cities of Sidon and Tyre shut down for the occasion. All Palestinian camps in Beirut and the north went on strike.

'Awn Said To Receive Weapons From Syrian Allies

NC2105145090 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] 'Awn's gunmen violated the security truce at noon today. They fired rockets and directed bursts of machine gun fire at Lebanese Forces positions on the al-Qulay'at and Darayya combat lines in Kasrawan and at the al-Tibbiyah, Hotel Dieu, al-'Adliyah, and al-Muthaf axes in Beirut.

Meanwhile, AP cited security sources in Beirut as saying that, despite the security truce in East Beirut, trucks loaded with weapons were arriving from the mountains in areas controlled by General 'Awn, adding that the bulk of these weapons were 130-mm guns.

A security source told AP that it is Syria's allies—the Maradah forces, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, and the Elie Hubayqah group—who are supplying 'Awn with weapons and ammunition. The source told AP that 'Awn pays for these in cash.

Iranian Mission Shelled, 'Severely Damaged'

LD2005090690 Tehran IRNA in English 0550 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Beirut, May 20, IRNA—The Iranian cultural mission here was severely damaged and two persons badly wounded when hit by mortar shells exchanged between the Amal militia and Hizballah fighters Saturday afternoon.

"The shelling was hit by more than 35 mortar and RPG shells as a result of which most of the rooms were damaged and almost all books and furniture were destroyed.

According to the informed source one of the two wounded was an employee of the mission.

Crossings in Eastern Area Reopen 22 May

NC2205070390 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Crossing points in the eastern area reopened at 0600 this morning in accordance with a decision by the party which had originally closed them. 'Awn gunmen's command has announced that all roads in the eastern area will be open today, Tuesday, between 0600 and 1900, except for the Museum-al-Barbir road which will be open between 0500 and 2000. This command, which had never given any reason for closing the crossing points, did not say why these measures were being taken.

We have been advised that the al-Dubayyah, Nahr al-Mawt, al-Ittihad, Buick, and Hotel Dieu crossing points are open in both directions. The Salumi crossing point remains closed to traffic but is open to pedestrians. The Biqa' Tuta-Biskinta crossing point is also open, but use of this point appears to be subject to the whims of the soldiers manning it.

Al-Asad Conveys 'Syria's Viewpoint' on Summit

JN2105184590 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1732 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Iraqi Justice Minister Mr. Muhammad Akram 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Ali. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended.

The Iraqi minister delivered a message to the president from Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq, dealing with an invitation to the Arab summit conference.

The president asked him to convey Syria's viewpoint on the subject, which can be summed up as follows:

In principle, Syria supports the convening of the Arab summit and had stated this before a plan for convening the summit existed. It believes the summit is very important in light of international developments and their consequences, such as new Jewish immigration and other matters which pose grave dangers to the future of all Arabs. This calls for broad consultations among leaders, and careful preparation based on technical and political studies and dialogue at the level of experts and foreign ministers.

Within the framework of these dialogues, certain issues that might be insignificant in themselves but that may, by their nature, hamper or limit the success of the summit, will be resolved. In achieving this, the summit will be ready to agree on a viewpoint and on important resolutions commensurate with the danger faced by the Arab nation and emerge in solidarity, united in effort and viewpoint. If the summit does not contain the conditions necessary for its success the way all Arabs want, it will add new negative aspects to the Arab situation which are not in the interest of any Arab. Syria sincerely hopes that everyone will carefully study the matter, that insignificant matters will not take precedence over significant matters, and that priority and importance be given to the future of the Arab nation.

The president added: We have to clarify that in isolation from the projected summit, Syria will stand with all its strength by the side of Iraq and any other Arab country subjected to Israeli aggression.

Commentary Views Rishon Leziyyon Shootings

JN2105152490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 May 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the Israeli enemy perpetrated a new massacre against our kinfolk in the occupied homeland yesterday. The massacre brings back to mind the old callous ones committed in Dayr Yasin, Kafr Qasim, and Qibya. A Zionist opened fire on some Arab laborers, killing and wounding scores. The Israeli army, for its part, fired indiscriminately at demonstrators in Gaza, killing or wounding hundreds. The two incidents run in parallel; they are essentially linked and show the dimensions of the new strategy of the Zionist enemy.

When Shamir declared that the occupied Arab territories would be given over to the settlement of the new Jews, and when he stressed that his government is proceeding with the scheme of Greater Israel, he was inviting new massacres against the Arabs. There is no way to settle hundreds of thousands of immigrants without expelling the Arabs from the West Bank and Gaza strip. And this expulsion can only be possible through the perpetration of a series of massacres, causing panic among Arab citizens and consequently mass emigration as happened in 1947 and 1948.

The Zionist entity has recently seen a frantic power struggle between Shamir and Peres, between Peres and Rabin, and between Sharon and Shamir. While Sharon is demanding the post of war minister to end the intifadah in a sea of blood, as he stated, Shamir, who does not want Sharon to gain ground, took the task of oppression on his own shoulders. He instructed one of his agents to kill the largest number of Arab laborers and gave orders to the army to perpetrate a massacre in Gaza. Eighteen Arab citizens were martyred and hundreds of others were wounded.

This new crime, in fact, reflects the new Zionist way of thinking—the need to expel the Arabs from their homes with all means to facilitate the settlement of the new Jews and the establishment of Greater Israel. It is the beginning of a series of massacres planned by the enemy leaders. This places great responsibilities on the international community and immense ones on the Arab countries.

While the Zionists exposed their ugly racist and aggressive face; while they perpetrated massacres far more horrible than those of the Nazis; and while, in their desperate attempts to suppress the intifadah, they crushed the rights of the Palestinian people and violated all international conventions and principles, Washington was moving in two directions: bringing pressure on the world community to abolish its historic resolution equating Zionism with racism, and pressing the USSR and Eastern European countries into turning a blind eye to the intensive Jewish emigration to occupied Palestine.

Washington's intentions were revealed when it closed its doors to the emigrant Soviet Jews in order to force them to go to occupied Palestine, when it allocated funds to settle these emigrants, and allowed them to settle in East and west Jerusalem. Washington also put intense pressure on Eastern European countries and some Latin American countries to resume relations with Israel, to seek the cancellation of the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism, and to provide all facilities for direct transportation of Soviet Jews to Tel Aviv. This hostile position is in flagrant conflict with the will of the international community as well as resolutions on the need to recognize the rights of Palestinians to their homeland and on the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories.

When we look carefully into the Arab position, we find nothing but statements and speeches. Practical measures even contradict these statements. This year, the United States gave approximately $3.5 billion to Israel. This is the declared figure, but the true figure is even higher. Have the Arabs provided the intifadah, which is facing Israel and foiling its schemes, with the same, half, or even part of this amount of money? Have the Arabs provided the frontline countries, which are burdened with tough living conditions and all sorts of deprivation as they confront the enemy, with the necessary assistance to support this courageous confrontation? What good does it do the Arabs to hoard their wealth if Israel succeeds in establishing its greater state on the Arab land and, consequently, confiscates the land and everything over and under it?

The future is very bleak and is full of danger if Arab carelessness continues and if Arabs do not rise to the level of the challenges.

Algerian Foreign Minister Meets With Al-Asad

Arrives in Damascus

JN1805183090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali arrived in Damascus at 2030 today on a visit to Syria. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', the head of the Foreign Ministry protocol, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus, and embassy staff members.

Issues Arrival Statement

JN1805204790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 May 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In an arrival statement to SANA, Ghazali said he has a letter from President Bendjedid to President al-Asad on regional developments and bilateral relations. The minister said: Distinguished Algerian-Syrian relations and Syria's role in advancing the Arab nation's noble goals make us anxious to hold contacts and consultations with our brothers in Damascus.

Conveys Message From President

JN1905115790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali at 1030 today. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Ghazali conveyed to the president a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The talks dealt with the Arab situation.

Departs After One-Day Visit

JN1905192990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali left Damascus at noon today after a one-day visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.

He was seen off at Damascus international airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', assistant protocol chief, and the Algerian ambassador and embassy staff in Damascus.

Mr. Ghazali made a statement to SANA prior to his departure in which he said: I am very proud and honored for the valuable time President Hafiz al-Asad devoted to me. He gave me the opportunity to convey the message I was carrying to him from his brother President Chadli Bendjedid.

He added that he considered the talks during the meeting as extensive and fruitful on current basic Arab issues and concerning the understanding between Syria and Algeria. He said: I renew my thanks to President Hafiz al-Asad and to Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' for this meeting which was, as usual, a very fraternal meeting.

General Elections for People's Assembly Begin

JN2205071290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 May 90

[Excerpt] Syrian governorates—The general elections for the fifth legislative term of the People's Assembly begin today. Voters will go to the polls to elect their representatives in the new assembly. In an atmosphere of freedom and democracy, and with a full sense of national responsibility, all citizens will exercise their right to elect the most qualified candidate to pursue the march of development and progress that has been adopted by Syria under the historic leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. [passage omitted]

Afghanistan

Khalikyar Announces New Cabinet

Spokesman Comments

BK2105150890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1505 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Kabul, May 21 (AFP)—Afghanistan's new prime minister, Fazle Haq Khalikyar, on Monday named a 35-member cabinet retaining the key defence, foreign affairs and interior portfolios from President Najibullah's ruling party.

Mr. Khalikyar, who is not a member of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), brought in 13 new faces but retained ministers holding the crucial defence, foreign affairs, interior, state security, information, culture and transportation portfolios.

These posts are all held by PDPA members, of whom three are also members of the PDPA Politburo.

"Under the present war situation it would be difficult for non-PDPA members to hold these important positions," Government Spokesman Humayun Mukammel told reporters here.

The number of deputy prime ministers rose from four to six. In addition, there are 25 full ministers and four ministers without portfolio.

Mr. Mukammel said most of the new ministers were technocrats and experts in their respective fields.

Earlier in the day Mr. Khalikyar told the national assembly his government would be a coalition. Senior PDPA members also said earlier they would have reduced roles in the new cabinet, which they wanted to be independent from the party.

Diplomats and political observers here said there were no major opposition figures in the cabinet.

A small but influential group that supports the return of former King Zaher Shah, now in exile in Italy, has turned down a government offer to join the cabinet, questioning the sincerity and credibility of the party.

Ministers Listed

BK2205005090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1709 GMT 21 May 90

[All names as received]

[Text] Kabul, May 21 (AFP)—Following is the new Afghan Cabinet named by Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaliqyar on Monday [21 May].

Members of the ruling Peoples' Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) are denoted by a (p) in front of their names:

Prime Minister:
Fazl Haq Khaliqyar

Deputy Prime Ministers:
(p) Mahmoud Baryalai
Abdul Wahid Sarobi
(p) Abdul Kayum Nurzai
(p) Sarwar Mangal
Nematullah Pahwak
Mahbubullah Kushani

Ministers:
Masuma Ismathi Wardak - Education
Gulam Mahuddin Dariz - Justice
Meher Mohammad Ajazi - Public Health
(p) Abdul Wakil - Foreign Affairs
(p) Raz Mohammad Pukteen - Interior Affairs
Soliha Farooq Eitehmadi - Social Affairs
Mohammad Hakim - Finance
(p) Mohammad Aslam Watanjar - Defence
(p) Gulam Farooq Yaqubi - State Security Affairs
Mohammad Siddiq Sailani - Religious Affairs
Mohiuddin Shahbaz - Statistical Affairs
Sarjang Zazai - Border Affairs
Mohammad Ghuffran - Agriculture
Anwar Doset - Light Industries and Foodstuffs
Faqir Mohammad Nekzat - Public Works and Construction
Abdul Samad Salah - Mining and Industries
Sayad Nasim Alawi - Communications
Abdul Gafur - Water and Power
(p) Basheer Ahmad Reigar - Information and Cultural Affairs
Anwar Shams - Higher Education
Fathi Tarin - Refugee Affairs
Zakhir Shah - Commerce
Hayatullah - Rural Development
(p) Khalilullah - Transport
Hamidullah Tarzih - Civil Aviation

BAKHTAR Commentary

LD2105064690 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0515 GMT 21 May 90

["Commentary on Political Changes in Afghanistan"—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, May 20, BAKHTAR—A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: The people of Afghanistan are in the threshold of big political transformation in the interest of peace in the country. The decree of President Najibullah about the assignment of designate prime-minister for the formation of a new cabinet, amendments in the constitution, the convocation of forthcoming loya Jergah all have peaceful objectives and characteristics which as a part of the policy of national reconciliation has brought about a new political motive towards peace and democratisation of socio- economic and political aspects of the life.

While the Republic of Afghanistan is endeavouring to reach an accord among Afghans inside and outside the country the extremists are still launching American long-range rockets on Kabul City. in the past 15 days

alone, the Pak-backed extremists have fired 61 long-range American rockets on the inhabitants of Kabul citizens as a result of which twenty one persons including children and women were killed and 63 others injured.

The extremists launched 27 rockets on Kabul city on May 19 as a result of which among others charge d'affaires of Yugoslavia and UN employee were injured and impaired a vehicle of the Red Cross.

The extremists should understand that they will never be able to detract the people of Afghanistan from the course of peace and conciliation.

Resistance Reportedly Captures Estalef

BK2105140390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1343 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, May 21 (AFP)—The Afghan resistance have captured a strategic town in the north of Kabul after fierce fighting, resistance sources in this bordering Pakistani city said Monday [21 May].

Estalef, 50 kilometres (35 miles) north of Kabul fell to the mujahidin after a daylong battle Sunday, the pro-resistance AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) said.

At least 13 government soldiers were killed and nine captured, it said, putting guerrilla casualties at two dead and several wounded.

Located on the main Salang highway linking Kabul with the Soviet Union, Istalif was a major red army base for 10 years during the Soviet troop involvement in Afghanistan which ended in February last year.

The agency said the resistance also captured a government rocket base in the town and seized a large quantity of light arms and ammunition.

India

Spokesman Comments on Gates-Singh Meeting

BK2205111690 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0939 GMT 22 May 90

[Official spokesman's statement dated 21 May 1990]

[Text] Mr. Robert Gates, deputy National Security Adviser, visited India on 20th and 21st May as a special envoy of President Bush. He was accompanied by Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly, and the special assistant to the President on Neareast and South Asia, Dr. Richard Haass.

Mr. Gates, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Clark and other members of the delegation called on the prime minister at 1640 and handed over a letter from President Bush. Earlier, the special envoy also had discussions with the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral; the minister of state in the Ministry of Defence, Dr. Raja Ramanna, and Foreign Secretary Mr. Muchkund Dubey.

In the meeting with the prime minister, Mr. Gates recalled President Bush's close personal involvement in the improvement of India-U.S. relations in recent years and expressed the president's commitment to the further strengthening of bilateral relations. The Indian prime minister reciprocated these sentiments.

The special envoy expressed President Bush's concern at the escalation of tensions in the subcontinent and urged that India and Pakistan enter into a dialogue in the spirit of the Simla Agreement. The special envoy made it clear that the U.S. did not wish to act as a mediator and believed that the present tensions could be best defused through dialogue between India and Pakistan. However, as a close friend of both countries, the U.S. wished to explore possibilities for defusing tensions.

In responding to the special envoy, the prime minister reiterated India's concerns regarding Pakistan's continuing support to terrorism and subversion in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. These activities were the root cause of the present situation and their elimination was essential for restoring confidence and thereby deescalating the present situation.

Further Reaction to Farooq Assassination

Police Fire on Mourners

BK2105131690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1307 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Jammu, India, May 21 (AFP)—At least 20 people died and scores were injured Monday in police firing in Kashmir to disperse mourners protesting the assassination of Muslim High Priest Maulvi Farooq, witnesses said.

They said the police had attempted to stop a march of 10,000 mourners, including wailing men, women and children, who were carrying the body of the slain religious leader through the streets of Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Jashmir State.

The coffin was also hit in the firing, the witnesses said.

Officials said that Army troops had been rushed to the scene.

Kashmir police officials confirmed that 20 had died in the firing, but witnesses put the death toll as high as 60 and said the police had fired indiscriminately.

"The streets are splattered with blood, the wounded were lying helplessly," a witness said.

The police opened fire as the procession of mourners, shouting "We Want Freedom" and "Down With India," flooded into the streets—in defiance of a hastily imposed curfew—to carry the slain religious leader's body.

The security forces stopped them as they were marching from the district which contains the ancestral home of the slain Kashmir Muslim high priest.

Mirwaiz Maulvi Farooq was assassinated in a hail of bullets by unknown gunmen who stormed his home earlier in the day.

The crowd ignored the security forces' orders to return to their homes because of the curfew, and when they surged forward, the police opened fire repeatedly, witnesses said.

Officials said security personnel resorted to firing when the crowd became violent and advanced "menacingly."

By late evening, officials here reported that the Army had taken complete control of the city and that the curfew was being "strictly enforced" with shoot on sight orders.

Death Toll at 47

BK2205085890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0838 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Jammu, May 22 (AFP)—An estimated 300,000 mourners Tuesday ringed the coffin of Kashmir's Muslim high priest, Mirwaiz Maulvi Farooq, assassinated a day earlier by unknown gunmen in the city of Srinagar, witnesses said.

Wailing women beat their chests in the traditional Islamic gesture of woe as men wept openly near the birch-wood coffin of the mirwaiz, or high priest, whose slaying Monday shocked both India and Pakistan, the witnesses said.

Hundreds of mourners, including black-shrouded women and children, poured out into the streets to await the burial of the 45-year-old prelate, the first Kashmiri mirwaiz to be assassinated in 600 years.

"More people are streaming towards the area where the body is kept," a witness said by telephone.

Mr. Farooq is scheduled to be buried with full Islamic religious rites at 2.30 p.m. (0900 GMT) Tuesday.

In a major departure from tradition, the respected cleric was to be be buried in a martyrs' graveyard, instead of the ancestral burial grounds of the high priests called the Mirwaiz Manzil, organisers said from Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital.

Muslim campaigners for Kashmir's secession have turned the city's ancient Ali Masjid (mosque) grounds into a burial place for those slain in police firings, and have renamed it the martyrs' graveyard since the secessionist unrest turned bloody in January.

Between three and four gunmen, posing as journalists, entered the fortress-like home of the mirwaiz on Monday and shot him 13 times in the head and body.

Several leading Muslim militant organisations, including the powerful Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), have condemned the assassination and blamed the slaying on Indian security troopers.

Police said they have not imposed a curfew in the Srinagar districts of Jama Masjid, Safakadal, Gainkadal and Gorakadal to permit mourners to come for "didar," or the last glimpse of the mirwaiz.

At least 47 mourners were killed and more than 200 wounded in police firing Monday when 10,000 Muslim marchers violated a hastily imposed day curfew and tried to carry the body of the slain religious leader to the Ali Masjid.

Reports in Jammu, the state's winter capital, said the pallbearers were instantly killed in Monday's firing and the body of the mirwaiz fell on the ground during the intense shooting.

The high priest, who founded a party called the Awami Action Committee in 1964, had advocated popular involvement in the Muslim campaign against India's control of the northern state.

Two months ago, in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, the mirwaiz warned that he would use all his religious and political clout to oppose New Delhi if it continued to rule the region federally.

The mirwaiz's of Kashmir derive their immense influence from the hereditary nature of the post.

Meanwhile, a religious council of the Jama Masjid, or main mosque, said it would elect a new mirwaiz "in a day or two" to occupy the pulpit of the Muslim shrine, from where the high priests have preached for the past several generations.

Mr. Farooq's son is his logical successor, several council members said.

The death toll this year from violence linked to the bloody Kashmiri campaign, including Monday's casualties, has shot up to at least 555.

Srinagar Curfew Reimposed

BK2205033590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Intensive search is being carried out by the security forces in Srinagar to nab the killers of the prominent religious leader and chairman of the Awami Action Committee, Mirwaiz Maulvi Mohammad Farooq. Maulvi Farooq was assassinated by three terrorists at his residence yesterday.

Messages of condemnation of the killing are still pouring in from various quarters. The Congress-I and the India Union Muslim League and the Jammu and Kashmir Panthers Party has condemned his tragic assassination. The Congress-I spokesman said in New Delhi that with the Maulvi's death, a major political force from the valley has been removed.

Meanwhile, an indefinite curfew has been reimposed in Srinagar City after the violence. The curfew will be relaxed today in the areas falling under the police station

of Khaniar, Nauhata, Maharaj Gund, Safakadal, and Nagin. Search is also on for the missing constable of the J and K [Jammu and Kashmir] police, who is feared to have been kidnapped by terrorists in Hawal area.

Meanwhile, the state governor has constituted a committee to recommend suitable relief up to 1 lakh rupees in cases where persons having no involvement in militant or violent activities might have died or suffered injuries accidentally in the incidents of cross firing. The chief secretary in charge of law and order, Mr. Hamidullah Khan, will head the committee. The two other members of the committee are the additional chief secretary, Mr. Mahmudur Rahman; and divisional commissioner, Kashmir, Mr. Jalil Ahmad Khan. The committee will consider all such incidents in the last one year and submit its reports within two months. It will also review cases where relief has already been paid.

Election Eve Murder Prompts Parliament 'Bedlam'

Gandhi Demands Federal Rule

BK2105131590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1248 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] New Delhi, May 21 (AFP)—The Indian parliament was plunged into chaos Monday [21 May] after opposition MP's [member of parliament] demanded the dismissal of a state government where a key election was put off following the murder of a candidate.

Visibly agitated Congress (I) MP's repeatedly shouted slogans and interrupted normal parliamentary proceedings, triggering shrill counter slogans from the treasury benches.

Former prime minister and Congress (I) President Rajiv Gandhi led his colleagues in the Lok Sabha, the lower house, in demanding immediate imposition of federal rule in the northern state of Haryana.

Speakers in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, the upper house, adjourned the sessions after failing to contain the bedlam which continued for nearly 30 minutes.

Haryana, which adjoins New Delhi, is governed by the Janata Dal (People's Party), the core partner in the national front government, which took power here in November following general elections.

An independent candidate was shot dead in Haryana's Meham constituency Thursday, invalidating the May 26 election to the state legislature and leading to police firing on rioting mobs that left three dead.

The balloting was to have been a popularity test for Haryana's Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala, the son of Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal who was said to be hesistant to face the Meham electorate.

The Congress (I), the main opposition party in Haryana, has accused Mr. Chautala of engineering the candidate's murder to stall the poll. Mr. Chautala has denied the accusation.

In the Rajya Sabha, Chairman Shankar Dayal Sharma charged the Congress (I) MP's with "murdering democracy." But senior party member Shiv Shankar retorted that democracy had been "murdered" in Haryana.

"We are fighting to save democracy," he said. "There should be an assurance from the (federal) government that the Haryana Government will be dismissed and president's rule imposed in the state."

One Rajya Sabha Congress (I) MP, S.S. Ahluwalia, sported a garland of spent bullets reportedly fired at villgers in Meham by the Haryana police.

In the Lok Sabha, Mr. Lal sat through the commotion stolidly when Mr. Gandhi, who was prime minister for five years until November, took the lead in attacking the government.

Mr. Gandhi visited Meham Sunday and news reports said hundreds came to see and hear him.

An earlier poll in Meham on February 27 was declared invalid by election authorities following violence blamed on supporters of Mr. Chautala, which left six people dead and dozens wounded.

The cancellation boosted the issue to nationwide importance and triggered a political crisis for the national front government.

The autonomous election commission later fixed May 26 for a fresh election in Meham, where Mr. Chautala was known to be facing a tough battle from his key rival, Anand Singh Dangi, a dissident member of the Janata Dal.

Mr. Chautala, who needs to win an election before June 2 if he wants to remain chief minister, has also entered himself as a candidate in a second constituency in Haryana. That election in Dariba Kalan is due to go ahead as scheduled on May 26.

Haryana Minister To Step Down

BK2205070590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] The Haryana chief minister, Mr. Om Prakash Chautala, has agreed to step down from office. This was disclosed by the Janata Dal president, Mr. S. R. Bommai, at a press conference in New Delhi this morning. Mr. Bommai said the Haryana Janata Dal legislature party will meet soon to elect its new leader.

The Janata Dal president said that decision to ask Mr. Chautala to relinquish office was taken at the meeting of the party's Political Affairs Committee [PAC] late last night. The PAC meeting was attended by the prime minister, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh; Mr. R.K. (Tidke), Mr. Ajit Singh, Mr. Biju Patnaik, Mr. Sharad Yadav, Mr. Chimanbhai Patel, Mr. Yashwant Sinha, Mr. Jaipal Reddy, Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, Mr. Nathu Ram Mirdha, Mr. Madhu Dandavate, and Mr. I.K. Gujral. Mr. Bommai presided over the meeting.

The decision of the PAC was conveyed to Mr. Chautala this morning by Mr. Bommai. Mr. Chautala said that as a disciplined member of the party, he will abide by the advice of the party president and will immediately step down from the office.

The committee again met this morning and Mr. Bommai informed it of Mr. Chautala's acceptance of the request to step down from chief ministership. Mr. Bommai said he had fully apprised of the position to the deputy prime minister, Mr. Devi Lal, and added that the PAC decision had the consent of the deputy prime minister.

The Janata Dal chief, in reply to a question, said there is no question of dissolution of Haryana assembly. Our correspondent Jagdish Pandey reports Mr. Jaipal Reddy who was also present during the press conference remarked the Maham issue has been amicably sorted out within the party.

Minister Resigns 22 May

BK2205074490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] A report just received says that [Haryana Chief Minister] Mr. Chautala submitted his resignation letter to the Janata Dal president, Mr. S.R. Bommai, this morning. This was announced by Mr. Chautala in New Delhi.

Iran

Iraqi Request for Syria To Attend Summit Noted

LD2105131890 Tehran IRNA in English 1235 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Damascus, May 21, IRNA—Special envoys from the Iraqi president and PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat are in the Syrian capital with messages for president Hafiz al-Asad, requesting his participation in the upcoming summit meet in Baghdad. The Iraqi minister of justice reportedly met Hafiz al-Asad Monday afternoon [21 May] and submitted Saddam Husayn's letter. The Syrian mass media, however, has not yet broadcast any report on the meeting.

So far Syria and Lebanon have decided to boycott the summit objecting to Baghdad as its venue.

Meanwhile, a PLO team led by 'Arafat's deputy Hani al-Hasan, is also in Damascus, and would try to meet President al-Asad and persuade him to attend the controversial Baghdad summit. This is the first time since 1988, following straining of Damascus-PLO ties, that a team from the 'Arafat faction is visiting the Syrian capital.

In related news, the Algerian press has also come out strongly against the selection of Baghdad as a venue, which it said will divide Arab ranks in view of Syria's apparent boycott.

The daily Al-Masa' hinted last Saturday, that President Chadli Bendjedid may not attend the Baghdad summit, if the Syrian president stays away.

Musavi-Ardebili Friday Sermon Broadcast

LD1805154690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1159 GMT 18 May 90

[Second Friday Sermon delivered by 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardebili, provisional Friday imam of Tehran, at Tehran University on 18 May—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. [passage omitted]

These days there are two programs which are being implemented and, God willing, they will be successful programs. In the second sermon I find it necessary to refer to both these programs in a very brief and concise manner. One program is the campaign against prohibitions. [monkarat—from Arabic—acts prohibited in the Koran or by the shari'ah but which are slightly less serious than acts of harm] Yesterday I had an opportunity to have a meeting with a number of brothers and officials and I stressed this point to them too.

The campaign against prohibitions has its roots in the Koran. It is one of the issues which was started in the first few years after Mohammad's declaration of his prophethood and has always continued. In Islam we have penalties [jeza'iyat—from Arabic], restrictive punishment [hudud—Arabic], retaliation [qisas—Arabic], payment arising from tort [diyat- - Arabic; fines imposed for an offense or compensation in lieu of a religious injunction], unspecified punishments [ta'zirat—Arabic; refers to offenses whose punishment has not been specified in the shari'ah and should be decided by the Islamic judge, normally in form of corporal punishment], and judicial laws [ghaza].

The importance which Islam has given to the fight against prohibitions is greater than the importance it has given to other things. The penalties which Islam has specified for prohibitions are more severe than other penalties, the like of which one cannot see elsewhere. For the homosexuals, men or women, Islam has prescribed the most severe punishment. Of course, in the case of men it is on the basis of consensus [ijma'—Arabic] while in the case of women it is on the basis of established precedent [mashhur - Arabic]. Do you know how homosexuals are treated in Islam? After it has been proved on the basis of shari'ah, they should bring him, they should keep him standing, they should split him in two with a sword, either they should cut off his neck or they should split him from the head. He falls down. They get what they deserve. After he dies they bring logs, they make a fire, and they place the corpse in the middle of the logs, they set fire to it and they burn it. Or it should be taken to the top of a mountain and be thrown down. Then the parts of the corpse should be gathered together and burnt. Or they should dig a hole, they should make a fire in the hole and they should throw him live in the fire. We do not have such punishments for other offenses.

It was during the time of the first [corrects himself], the second caliph ['Umar] that such a thing took place. They

brought a man to him and said he is a homosexual. They asked him what should be done. A number of people expressed their views. He ['Umar] asked His Holiness 'Ali [the fourth caliph and the first Shiite imam] what to do. His holiness said: Kill him, order him to be beheaded with a sword. He had him beheaded and then they wanted to take the corpse away. His holiness said: No, the rest of the penalty should be carried out. They asked him what to do. He said: Bring logs. They brought some logs and then he said tie all parts of his body to the logs. They tied him to the logs, and then he ordered them to burn it. They burned him until it was turned to ashes. He said: This is the established punishment [had, singular of hudud] for such a man.

This is the punishment. In Islam the penalties for prohibitions are such—this is the maximum and then you come down to others. In Islam prohibitions have been confronted with great severity. Therefore, there cannot be the slightest degree of mercy or compassion toward those who observe inadequate Islamic dress [bad-hijabi] or toward prohibitions. There should not be the slightest degree of mercy toward these criminals.

Praise be to God, this matter is being pursued by the honorable officials. What I would like to point out, however—which is something the gentlemen may already be aware of but need a reminder—is that if the society's culture comes to comprise unlawful acts [monkarat], then the system would be obliged to combat those vices, in accordance with the shari'ah. This is a conclusion drawn from our experiences of the past 10 years. We have to try and establish an anti-vice culture in our society. We must make certain that those unlawful acts are shunned by the people. The people should learn to see the evil, to a degree that even the perpetrator of a vice should tremble with a tormented conscience after having committed that vice under the compulsion of the physical desire. We should not consider this impossible. This was a path followed by Islam, from its onset.

According to a tradition cited in Malek ibn-Attiyeh, one day the Imam 'Ali was sitting at home when a man approached him saying: Please absolve me, to which his holiness graciously replied: What is the matter? He said: I have committed a homosexual act. [passage omitted]

His holiness graciously said: Islam has laid down a choice of three punishments with respect to such acts: decapitation, being thrown from a mountain, or to be burnt alive; these are your choices. The man said: 'Ali! Tell me, which is the harshest?. 'Ali said: The third one, to which he said: In that case I will take that one. [passage omitted].

This is what culture is; that is the anti-vice culture. [passage omitted]

The second issue concerns the drug addicts. Praise be to God, so far we have had good results. However, when the narcotics squad started its campaign we had expected results to be achieved much sooner. God willing, the brothers will pursue their campaign, and perhaps those two home-destroying calamities will God willing be uprooted from this land. [passage omitted]

There is something else for which I would like assistance from any of the gentlemen who can oblige. I was told before the Friday prayers that our Azeri brothers need copies of the Koran. If possible, I would be grateful if the Friday prayers officials bring in copies of the Koran, to be dispatched to them. So far there has been a good response and we have received much assitance, specially from the Friday prayer leaders of the border towns. However, the need is still there, and we need more copies to be sent to them. [passage omitted]

We came across some copies which had Turkish translations, but since those translations were of a poor standard, we put them aside, and instead assigned a group of translators to transcribe good, correct translations. God willing they will soon receive copies with good Azeri translations. [passage in Arabic omitted]

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Urges Boosting Production

LD2005121690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in a speech delivered this mornning to the managing directors of the production companies of the foundation for the affairs of the disabled: The massive investments of the foundation belong above all to the disabled, who constitute the most honorable and noble individuals in our nation. Remarking on the piety and contentment of the disabled, the president reiterated: We should do our utmost in providing the basic necessities for the disabled and resolving their problems.

Stressing the great impact on society of such a massive unit from the economic viewpoint, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: If such an establishment succeeds, then we could rest assured of its direct impact on issues relating to Islam and the revolution. You, as the officials of this foundation possess all the means of providing incentives for individuals. My advice to the officials is to take into account punitive measures as well as incentives.

The president went on to term production as the key to resolving the country's economic problems, adding: To this end we have no choice other than increasing production, and if we fail to produce, then we will be forced to import—which would be considered treachery in a country capable of producing—in which case establishment of an equilibrium would be totally meaningless.

Elsewhere in his speech, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani remarked on the need to devote all efforts toward the removal of the existing obstacles in the way of production in the public and private sectors, saying: At present the distribution system has still not managed to develop a regular pattern, and this system must evolve into a system of establishing licensed stores and branches, linked through channels to the Ministry of Commerce. The president described the government's economic

policy as being directed toward filling the market with domestic produce, with the aim of boosting industry, reiterating that in realizing this goal not only do we intend to rectify the tax law in favour of the producer, but you will soon be informed of good news pertaining to export protection, in accordance with which the production unit wilil be able to meet part of their foreign exchange needs.

In conclusion the president remarked: We will eliminate all the obstacles, and in return expect you to increase your production, ensuring that the goods reach the people in a proper manner, which is your duty to the revolution, the eminent leader and the society, so that people may feel that all their needs exist in the market, and will thus stop thinking about storing them.

On the basis of the same report, prior to the speech, the deputy director of the foundation for the affairs of the disabled's industries submitted a report on the activities of the production and mineral units of the foundation to the president.

Parliamentary Delegation Leaves for FRG

LD1905140590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] A four-person delegation from the Islamic Consultative Assembly, headed by Mr. 'Azizi, secretary general of the Interparliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran, left Tehran this morning for Bonn, the capital of West Germany.

According to a Central News Unit report, the interparliamentary meeting is to meet from 21 May. Its aim is to increase the level of the knowledge of the parliamentarians on the present and future trends in disarmament with the view to performing decisive measures on a national and international scale.

The topics to be discussed during its five-day meeting include the need for disarmament, developments in international relations and their impact on security and disarmament, formulation of security doctrines with regard to disarmament, the role of the United Nations and its related agencies in disarmament and, finally, reduction of political motives for tension in the world.

Azerbaijan SSR Publishers' Delegation Visits

NC2105115890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 May 90

[Telephone report by unidentified correspondent in Tabriz]

[Text] (Azhdar Khanbabayev), head of Soviet Azerbaijan's state publications office (Azernashr), has called for assistance from Iranian publishers in the publication of 500,000 copies of the holy Koran.

(Khanbabayev), who was in Iran as the head of a high-ranking cultural delegation from Soviet Azerbaijan to the third Tehran international book exhibition, was speaking to a Central News Unit correspondent before leaving for his country. He added: The publication of the Koran, which was banned in the Muslim-inhabited Soviet republics for 73 years, is now being undertaken by (Azernashr) in Baku in four different forms.

During his visits to Tehran and Tabriz universities and his meetings with cultural officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, he called for the expansion of cultural exchanges, stressing the need for assistance in publishing religious books needed in Soviet Azerbaijan as well as scientific, cultural, and historical books. He also called for student exchanges between Baku University and Iranian universities.

Discussing publications exchanges between Iran and Soviet Azerbaijan, (Azhdar Khanbabayev), who is also a member of the board of the Soviet Azerbaijan publications committee, said: Cultural centers are to be set up in both countries by the end of the current Christian year. The most recent publications and information on science, culture, literature, history, religion, and cultural achievements in the form of pictures, posters, audiovisual tapes, and paintings will be offered in Tehran and Tabriz in Iran and in Baku, Gyandzha, and Nakhichevan in Soviet Azerbaijan.

Saudi Arabia Accused of Blocking Yemen Unity

LD2005140590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] According to the report of the Central News Unit, the Islamic Revolution Organization of the Arabian peninsula revealed that the Saudi regime has resorted to threatening military actions to disturb the process of Yemen unity.

The organization announced that the Saudi regime's opposition to Yemen unity is so strong that the regime's defense minister has called for Saudi military intervention in order to block Yemen unity.

Editorial on Differences With Saudis

NC2105151490 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 8 May 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Talk About Reconciliation"]

[Text] It would not be an overstatement if we said that the most important aspect of the Islamic Republic foreign policy is the necessity of confronting the "world arrogance" or the U.S. imperialism whose extension in the region is the state of Israel.

The question of Israel or the occupying regime of Qods [Jerusalem] automatically leads to the heart of the Middle East conflict which is the Palestinian problem. The Islamic Republic is of the opinion that this problem does not solely relate to the Palestinians but to the Islamic world at large and their cause cannot be resolved

simply through peaceful means or compromise and that more active channels should be exhausted.

It is also believed that the Zionist regime was established partially out of resentment of Islam by the West and a desire to contain it since it has been historicaly proven that nothing can obstruct the realization of imperialist goals in the region as much as Islam and Islamic identity. If it is the Islamic identity that can check the hegemonic aspirations of the imperialists, then what better way can there be than increasing the awareness of the Muslims and uniting them so that they act and talk in unison. The backbone of such a unity can come from Muslim masses and no venue can serve in bringing them together better than the hajj pilgrimage in Mecca. That is exactly why the Islamic Republic chose that holy site to realize this unity goal by organizing "deliverance from paganism" rallies in which millions of Muslims converge annually.

But the Saudi government opposed the idea right from the beginning out of misunderstanding, fear or whatever and viewed the rallies as a medium detrimental to its own existence. Their opposition to the rallies culminated in the July 31, 1987 massacre of hajj pilgrims in Mecca in which over 400 "guests of God" and mostly Iranians were killed by the Saudi police near the holy Ka'bah. Since the incident occurred on a Friday it is commonly referred to as the "Bloody Friday" in Iran to signify the intensity of brutality. Later on the Saudi government did not even abide by internationally accepted norms, and the bodies of some of the victims were never even returned to their country.

The sad episode led to intense animosity and war of words between the two countries. The Islamic Republic condemned the Saudi regime in strongest terms and interpreted the act as a pressure on it to relinquish its Islamic and revolutionary principles which it has refused to do.

But the Saudi government's enmity toward the Islamic Republic did not just end in the massacre. It also began putting conditions on the entry of Iranian hajj pilgrims, placed restrictions on their number—reduced them drastically to one third—and then barred them altogether. It convicted 16 Kuwaitis who were incorrectly seen as being sympathetic to the Islamic Republic and beheaded them. It also destroyed some holy shrines in that country held with deep respect by Shiites.

Since this act—or the act of barring Iranians from performing their religious duty—goes in direct and explicit contravention of Koranic teachings, the Islamic Republic began to question the legitimacy of the Al Sa'ud family to act as the administrator of the holy sanctuaries in Mecca and Medina and recommended that a body of recognized and respected Islamic theologians be chosen to assume the responsibility.

Three years have passed since the bitter episode in Mecca took place and the nucleus of the contention—that is the Zionist state—has begun new and more dangerous dimensions. For one thing, the Zionists "after having created the smaller Israel, have begun moving to create the greater Israel. Six Arab countries around Palestine will be destroyed, or their inhabitants will be reduced to refugees." To confront this dangerous phenomenon, the Islamic Republic reevaluated its foreign policy toward Muslim states and particularly Saudi Arabia. This change manifested itself in direct or indirect references by the Islamic Republic officials to the issues of contention between the two countries and the necessity of working out differences.

Minister of Islamic Guidance Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami in a speech to the participants of the rally in Tehran to mark the International Qods Day raised the issue of reconciliation between Tehran and Riyadh by saying that "Islamic Iran... is prepared to negotiate... a solution can be achieved provided that good will and realism exist".

It should be pointed out that it was initially during the 9th Conference of the Nonaligned Movement in Belgrade in 1989 that the question of mediation or reconciling differences between the two countries was raised. It was an appropriate venue since the heads of foreign ministers of all Arab countries and specially those in the Persian Gulf friendly to both Iran and Saudi Arabia were present. The idea was not, however, welcomed back then by Iran and oppositions were voiced to it by some segments of the government.

The Islamic Republic lost an opportunity not to have accepted the mediation offer by some Persian Gulf Arab states' foreign ministers. It seems it is Saudi Arabia's turn to commit that mistake again. According to the head of Iran's Hajj and Endowments Organization, Hojjat ol-Eslam Imam Jamarani, the Saudi government has been refusing mediation efforts by a number of Muslim countries all with the intention of opposing the participation of Iranian pilgrims in hajj for a fourth year.

Just as Iran reevaluated its position, the Saudis need to do the same. For how long can the Iranians be kept away from the hajj and what purpose does it serve the Saudis? A close and wise evaluation of the dispute should convince the Saudis—just as it did the Islamic Republic officials—that it is in the long run interest of both countries and the Islamic world, which includes the Palestinians, to get rid of the enmity and begin a new chapter in their ties.

Editorial Decries U.S. Support for Iraq

NC1805204290 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 30 Apr 90 pp 1,9

[Editorial: "Genuine Facts"]

[Excerpts] "U.S. involvement in support of Iraq in the Persian Gulf was one of the most successful Pentagon military operations of the past few years." In stating this, Caspar Weinberger—who was secretary of defense for seven years during the Reagan administration—blatantly confessed that the United States directly and comprehensively supported Iraq during the imposed war. He added: "It was hard to remain neutral in a war

in which one side was Iran. Therefore, we made statements and conducted operations which showed a U.S. leaning toward Iraq. However, in most cases, the United States tried not to reveal its support for Iraq."

Even though U.S. military intervention supporting Iraq in the imposed war was and is so obvious that it cannot be denied, this is the first time that a U.S. official who was directly responsible for making decisions and taking action during seven years of the eight-year Iraqi-imposed war has so blatantly stateed his view and clarified that despite alleged U.S. neutrality, Washington could not stay neutral in a war which had Iran on one side. [passage omitted]

All this proof enough for those who still may have some doubts about the vile nature of the United States and Washington's savage and inhuman stand toward the Islamic revolution.

We have strong and clear proof of the depth of American hatred toward Islam and the revolution. But even if this proof did not exist, the new book by Weinberger, who was U.S. defense secretary during the most sensitive period of the imposed war and who was in charge of actions against the Islamic Republic and the Iranian nation, is sufficiently clear. Even though there is nothing new in these confessions and they are mere repetitions of facts which the Iranian nation fully realized during the eight years of its sacred defense, nevertheless they provide strong evidence that should awaken simple-minded people who believe that in order to bring Iran out of its current situation, reconstruct the damages inflicted by the war, and overcome the impacts of the war, Iran should look to Washington.

Anyone who is aware of these facts but still insists on wishful thinking should question his sanity. These issues are matters of prestige for the society, the system, and the revolution and cannot be toyed with. Matters of a prestige that has been paid for with the blood and the sacrifices of a devoted and solid nation cannot be ignored.

Even the thought that one day those who entertain such notion may be the major decisionmakers and take over the revolution and the system makes those who love the revolution shiver. But the combatants who—with their thunderous shouts of God is Great—have made those who dwell in palaces tremble and have terrified the blasphemous in the East and in the West; who have defended Islam and the revolution with their rage and pitiless war; and who have realized who are their friends and their foes and are ready to act accordingly, will never allow this to happen.

This has been proven to everyone by the experience of the revolution which has been full of vicissitudes, but also full of pride.

Paper Supports Regime Stance on 'Direct Talks'

NC2105143090 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 10 May 90 pp 1, 11

[From the "Weekly Political Analysis" column]

[Text] The wave of support for the remarks of the leader of the revolution regarding the rejection of proposals of any kind for talks with the criminal United States, and the reiteration of the clear and overt stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the United States as its number one enemy, was an indication of the fact that the leadership's populist stance has strong backing from the nation.

Such a clear stance rightfully deserves to be supported so extensively and the people all indicated clearly that nothing has changed, nor will change, to the benefit of the United States. If there are some who have expressed any views to the contrary, they are, according to the leader of the revolution, those who are falsely impressed or simple-minded. Whatever the reason, one cannot be indifferent to the airing of such erroneous opinions, which harm the political stability of the country.

The letter addressed to his eminence the leader by the Islamic Majles deputies, and subsequent events, constituted a "firm blow to the United States." The letter refers in a contemptuous tone to the underhanded role of "those who were impatiently awaiting the exit of the imam so that they would be able to turn the trend of the revolution back by 180 degrees." It asserts that this deviant line has suffered a blow from the lucid stance expressed by the leader of the revolution.

The fact is that this was a major test for the forces of the revolution, who proved that they continue to stand steadfast with the same lofty fervor for the preservation of the revolution and its gains and will never heed any negative call which favors the enemies.

Commentary on Need for Foreign Relations

NC2105122790 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 30 Apr 90 pp 1, 12

[First part of article by Mohammad Sarafraz: "The Need for Dynamism in Diplomacy"]

[Text] There are at least three reasons the Islamic Republic of Iran should increase its activities in the field of diplomacy. These reasons are as follows: 1. international developments; 2. the emergence of new Islamic bases in the world; and 3. the promotion of peace talks.

1. International relations are undergoing rapid changes. The two-bloc system resulting from World War II has disintegrated and the superpowers have lost their earlier significance. New econmic and political blocs are springing up around the world. Meanwhile, nations have started a process of regaining their identities. Therefore, naturally our approach and the way we regulate our relations with the big powers should also change. The Islamic Republic of Iran should carefully and prudently follow these developments and pursue a diplomacy which is in line with the new situation. One of the definite principles called for in recognizing the new world situation is the need for talks, but only on the

condition that these talks are not carried out from a position of weakness and that they ensure our Islamic and divine grandeur.

Even when two countries are at war, the principle of talks continues to apply and representatives are sent to hold talks. This does not mean compromise and surrender. Neither does it mean the establishment of relations. The Islamic Republic of Iran should be able to talk even with its "worst enemies." This is something that we learned from the great prophet of Islam, peace by upon him and his scion. He taught us that we must speak even with our worst enemy, if necessary. There is no reason we should show weakness and disgrace at this sensitive international juncture and fear to talk with enemies. People who lack self-confidence and suffer from defeatism are those who fear talks. If foreign policy officials have the trust of the people and the support of the leadership, then why should they not able to speak with countries from a position of strength, initiative, and prudence if they deem such talks necessary and in the interests of the system? Of course it is obvious that this does not apply to those countries which do not support their leadership.

The message and logic of Islam is useful and clear for all nations and governments. What alternatives do those who oppose the principle of talks have to offer as a way to gain the rights of a nation that can only be gained through talks? Over the past eight years, talks on solving financial differences were carried out between Iran and the United States at the International Court at The Hague and no one opposed this!

Why should those who resort to slogans and subversions be allowed to obstruct any positive dynamism in our foreign policy? Unfortunately, in the past there were people who—contrary to the explicit policy of his eminence the imam, may his soul be sanctified—propagated a policy of "isolation" on the international scene and played a subversive role in preventing the implementation of a foreign policy based on the directives of the imam. Until recently they said that we do not need relations with governments but have to approach nations. Imam Khomeyni stated on 28 October 1984:

"I have heard that they are committing another mischief and asking: Why should we have relations with other governments? We are approaching nations and have nothing to do with governments! This is a plan that is being pursued now. The superpowers and America thought that Iran would become isolated because of the revolution that it carried out and because of its wish to gain independence and freedom, and that when Iran became isolated it could not survive. But they saw that this did not happen and that Iran expanded its relations with foreigners. Now they are saying: Why do we need relations with governments? They are all oppressive. We should have relations with nations. These are all part of a new plan and very dangerous. This is nothing but mischief. What we should do is what was done in the beginning of Islam when the prophet sent ambassadors here and there in order to establish relations. We cannot sit and say that we have nothing to do with governments and that this is against logic and the shari'ah."

Today too there are those who resort to hooliganism and demagogy to block positive steps which are in harmony with the directives of the Islamic revolution. These directives are based on wisdom and safeguard the interests of the system. The bravery and sincerity of our officials can remove obstacles and prevent the interests of the Islamic system from being sacrificed to false propaganda.

2. With the conclusion of the Iran-Iraq war the message of the Islamic revolution was clearly conveyed to Muslim nations. The further awakening of these nations led to the emergence of new bases of pure Islam in various parts of the world. Today the duties of our foreign policy officials are heavier than in the past. Our activities in the world of Islam should be on a vast scale. For example, why should we not maintain a presence in Jordan, which is one of the major bases of Palestinian struggle against Israel? Why should we forget the people of Egypt, who are among the Arab people with the deepest roots and culture in the world? Will the likes of King Husayn and others in shaky positions benefit from relations or will the Islamic Republic benefit?! Why shouldn't our revolutionary and Muslim people go on the hajj pilgrimage and state their disavowal of the pagans there? Isn't King Fahd trying to prevent our pilgrims from going on their pilgrimage in any way that he can? Why should the Saudi regime be given the pretext to create difficulties? Have the interests of the system not been sacrificed in all this? The need for the presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran throughout the Islamic world is more necessary now than ever before.

Editorial Approves Idea of Afghan Elections

NC2105150290 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 9 May 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Honest Elections May Offer the Cure to Afghan Crisis"]

[Text] Reports have it that finding a settlement to the Afghanistan crisis is among the topics to be discussed in the upcoming superpower summit.

The Afghan probem is among those issues that the passage of time has not only alleviated but indeed aggravated. [sentence as published]

The interim Mujahidin government comprising the Seven Party Alliance leaders in Peshawar, Pakistan, has not only not gained in momentum since its establishment last year but it has even lost part of its clout due to the severe international joustings that at least on one occasion led to armed confrontation between Islamic Party led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and Islamic Community Party of Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Meanwhile the Nine Party Alliance based in Tehran that constitutes the Islamic Unity Party lacks the power to handle the nation's crisis all by itself.

The same goes for the government of President Najibullah. In spite of all its propaganda, the Kabul regime appears too brittle to be able to push through, let alone to bring peace and order back to the country.

But Najibullah made an interesting remark recently. Talking to the Egyptian paper Al-Ahram, he has said he is ready to relinquish power if he loses the popular vote in an election. He has meanwhile predicted a big victory for his party if the elections are held.

But given the special intricacy of the Afghan problem elections seem to offer a cure to help grind to a halt the 11-year-cycle of bloodshed in this troubled country. The main problem however is to ensure a democratic election. The presence of armed government and non-government groups across the country poses the main threat to such an election.

International monitoring bodies such as the United Nations and the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] can come in and give a hand to protect the elections from rigging and manipulation by pressure groups.

Even Iran and Pakistan, which, together host some six million Afghan refugees, can assist the U.N. and ICO in overseeing the elections.

However those political observers who believe Afghanistan can emerge out of its bloody 11-year crisis simply through an election are not many in number.

Besides the armed groups and factions, the country is held in thrall to political games and dealings engineered outside of its own national borders. The influence of regional and non-regional countries in shaping the Afghanistan scenario is no doubt a strong negative factor to be reckoned with in finding any solution to the crisis.

Commentary Notes Improvement in W. Europe Ties

LD2005025590 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 19 May 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] At the end of the first session of Iran-Austria joint economic commission held in Vienna recently, a memorandum of understanding in the economic sphere was signed by Iran's industries minister, and Austria's minister of economic affairs. Based on this, their two countries have reached an agreement for cooperation in various economic fields.

Generally speaking, Iran's economic relations wtih the West European states have shown an improving trend during the past several months. The trip by Iran's heavy industries minister to Sweden culminated with a memorandum of understanding in [word indistinct]. Then an agreement signed with it that [word indistinct] to 13 billion dollars. This came as a result of Iran's industries minister's visit to Italy last month. And also a meeting by Iran's Foreign Ministry official with the representatives of the EEC in the Irish Republic [word indistinct] days ago, also attested this (?contention).

The aforegoing agreements are indicative of expansion of ties between Iran and West European states. Observers of Iranian affairs believe that the approval of the Islamic Republic's five-year socioeconomic plan and the elaboration of economic reconstruction programs have played an important role in boosting Iran's relations with West Europe. In its ties with the world's countries including the Western Europe, Iran is seeking establishment of relations based on equality and international respect.

Prior to the conclusion of the memorandum of understanding between Iran and Austria, the volume of commercial exchanges between them was at a low level, but with the signing of the first-ever memorandum of understanding between these two countries, economic relations between them will be greatly enhanced. Based on this memorandum of understanding worth 4 billion dollars, Iran and Austria will coperate with one another in industrial, agricultural, transportation, commercial, mineral, oil, and research spheres. In their talks the two countries also agreed that in order to conclude a series of agreements and [word indistinct] memorandums of understanding, the Austrian economy minister will lead a delegation to Tehran next year.

In the process of staying in Austria, Iran's industries minister met with top political and economic officials of that country including President Kurt Waldheim. Talks were held on issues of mutual interests between Iran and Austria, as well as on the Middle East. At any rate, the agreements and accords reached between Iran and Austria in their first ever memorandum of understanding, has turned Iran into one of the major trading partners of Austria, in the Persian Gulf region, and also among the Middle East nations. Hence it is expected that these economic ties will have positive impacts on bilateral ties.

Roundtable Program Views Baltic Situation

LD1705182190

[Editorial report] Tehran Television Service in Persian at 1635 GMT on 17 May carries a 45-minute political roundtable program about the recent changes in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. Participating in the program are Mahmud Va'ezi, deputy foreign minister for European and American affairs, and Movahhedian, chief of the East European Bureau of the Foreign Ministry.

The program opens with a five-minute report on the different races and nationalities in the Soviet Union and the nationalist movements which have appeared among some of them. In regard to the nationalist tendencies in the three Baltic republics, it is asked whether Gorbachev has decided what to do about this problem.

The moderator then says that since the communist revolution, the USSR has tried to impose uniformity on all the republics through the imposition of the Russian

language and the mixing of various nationalities. He asks Va'ezi to what extent this policy has been successful. Va'ezi gives a brief history of the three Baltic republics, saying that ever since they were annexed by the Soviet Union, these republics wanted to regain their independence, but Stalin's iron hand put an end to those aspirations, which remained dormant until a few years ago when Gorbachev came to power. Changes in the Soviet Union, Gorbachev's concept of perestroyka, and their hope for Western support encouraged those three republics to regain their independence. He is reminded of the question whether the Soviet Union has been able to create a homogeneous society among all the republics. He says that although they resorted to various policies to do so, they did not succeed, especially due to the fact that most people in those three republics are Catholics, while the majority of people in Russia are Greek Orthodox.

Movahhedian is asked whether these nationalist tendencies existed in the past, or whether they are recent tendencies encouraged by the West. He says that nationalist feelings have always existed. The Soviet Government has had some success in assimilating the various nationalities in the Soviet Union, but the climate created by perestroyka, as well as recent economic difficulties, have brought these inclinations to the surface. They also relied greatly on Western support. In the past, these three republics were independent. They were conquered by the tsars and were given back their independence by Lenin, but during Stalin's rule, as the result of an agreement with Germany, they were annexed again.

The moderator's next question is whether the situation is out of the Russians' control. Va'ezi says he thinks that Soviet leaders had no role in giving rise to these aspirations; the people of those republics always had such aspirations. The question is whether Moscow has been able to control the situation in the face of those republics' demands. In his view, so far Moscow has acted very well. Without the use of force it has imposed its will and has sent a message to other republics that, despite perestroyka and despite a more open social climate, Gorbachev will not tolerate the break up of the Soviet Union. This is why he has announced that in order to ensure the territorial integrity of the Soviet Union, he will use the Red Army. This is also why he imposed an economic embargo on those republics, and declared that these are domestic problems and foreign countries should not interfere.

The moderator then says that there are two views regarding the West's approach to this issue. Some people believe that the West wants Gorbachev to succeed and does not want to destabilize him. Others believe that the West is biding its time and will provide greater support for those republics at the proper opportunity. Movahhedian replies that the West does not want to see those three republics secede from the Soviet Union. The West has one common strategic approach toward the Soviet Union, but there are tactical differences in the approach of the Americans and the Europeans. The Europeans have a greater interest in maintaining good relations with the Soviet Union, and they need goodwill toward the unification of the two Germanys and toward the arms talks. So far, none of the Western countries have openly supported the independence of the Baltic states, but they are keeping their options open for future moves.

The moderator asks Va'ezi if one can see a bargain being struck, that the Soviet Union agrees with West Germany staying in NATO, while the West opposes the independence of the Baltic states. He says the situation is more complex and the changes in Eastern Europe are so rapid that there is no unified approach toward those changes, and each country reacts to various developments on the basis of its own interests. The European attitude to these changes is more moderate than America's reaction, because the Europeans have more common interest with the East Europeans and the unification of the two Germanys; while America is remote from the scene and does not have the same close interests in Europe. The two issues, namely the unification of Germany and the independence of the three Baltic republics, are not of the same degree of importance either. If Germany stays in NATO, this would bring about a change in the strategic situation in Europe, while the independence of the three Baltic republics, are not of the same degree of importance either. Moscow may reach a bargain with the West about Germany staying in NATO, provided that there are some changes in the formation of NATO.

Movahhedian adds that the West does not wish to go back to the cold war and does not like to see the defeat of Gorbachev's policies.

The moderator then asks whether the Baltic republics were mistaken in their assessment of the situation and did not see the possibilty of a bargain between the West and the Soviet Union. Movahhedian says that they had counted on more Western support. Also they thought if the new shape of Europe is finally determined, they will have no opportunity to demand their independence, and they thought that their only opportunity was to make a move now.

Va'ezi is asked about the efforts by the three republics to join their forces, and if this will have any effect on the outcome. He replies that during recent weeks Lithuania has been forced to retreat from her earlier demands; the visit of the Lithuanian prime minster to several Western countries was unsuccessful and, in practice, they realized that their hopes were too high.

The moderator says that Germany and France called on Lithuanians to moderate their demands. He is asked why they took such a stance. He says that they have higher priorities than the independence of Baltic states. If their support for those republics leaders to a worsening of their relations with the Soviet Union, they will give up that support. At the moment, the West is calculating that if they arouse Soviet hostility it will have consequences for them which are more important than the independence of the Baltic states.

Va'ezi is asked his views about the future course of events. He says that sometimes ago the Soviet congress passed a resolution about rules for seceding from the Union. He describes the resolution and says that the aim of the resolution is to ease the pressure which the Soviet Government is facing at the moment. They are trying to initiate great changes in the Soviet Union and wish these changes to take place peacefully. He does not foresee speedy independence for those countries, but if there are unforeseen changes in Europe which alter the present equations, then anything is possible.

Nepal & Bhutan

King Hands Over Legislative Power

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[Text] Kathmandu, May 21 KYODO—King Birendra of Nepal on Monday transferred legislative powers which formerly rested with the monarch to the new government headed by Prime Minister K.P. Bhattarai, officials said.

Under the present Constitution, the sovereignty of Nepal is vested in the king and all powers—executive, legislative, and judicial— emanate from him.

The latest decree gives the new government authority to enact law or make other provisions that will be necessary to realize its objectives.

The aims as spelled out by the government, a coalition of the Nepali Congress and an alliance of seven leftist parties, are the drafting of a new constitution that will limit the king's power to that of a constitutional monarch. General elections on a multiparty basis would also be held within one year.